

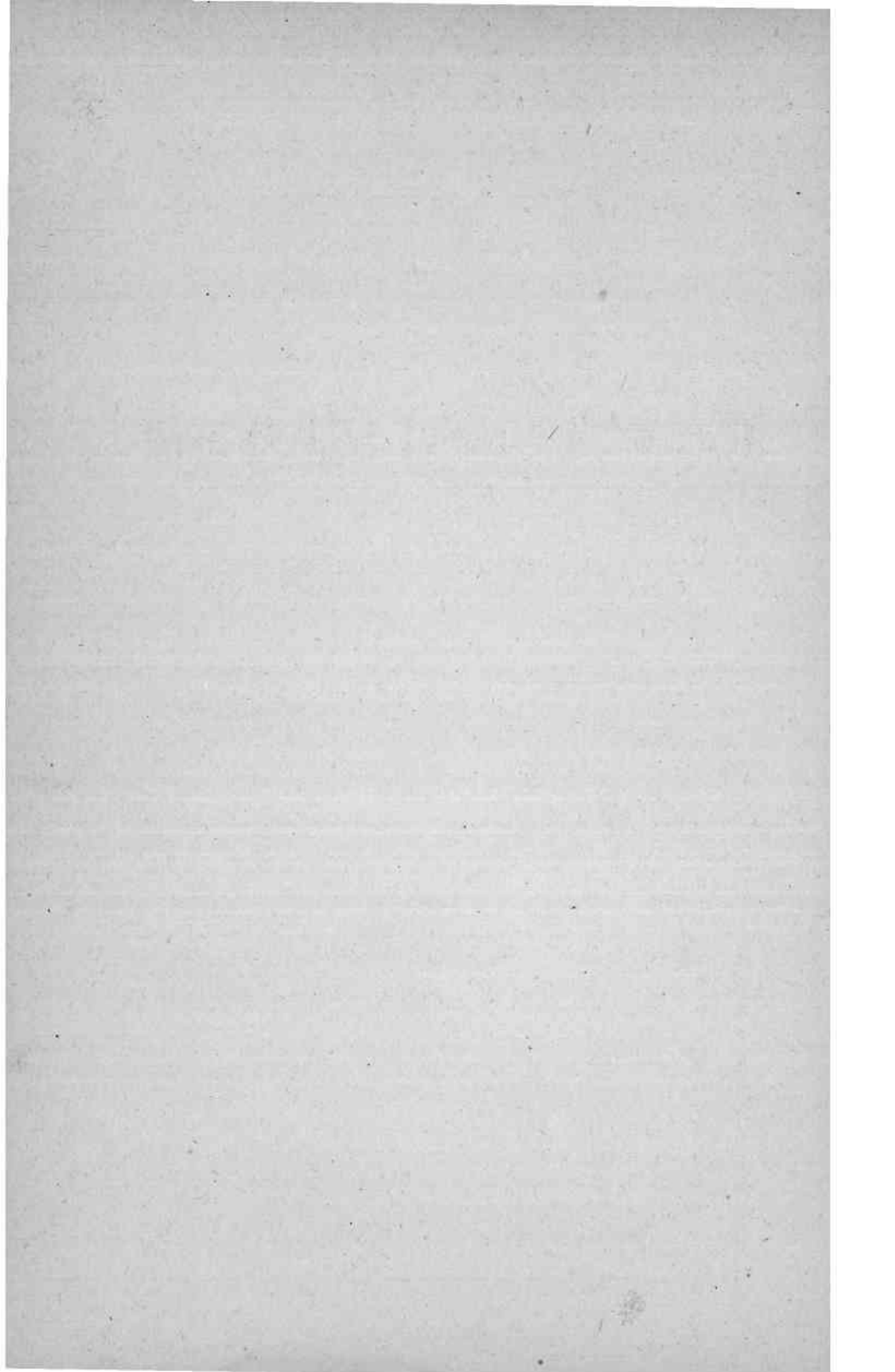
PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE
OF
Ancient Free & Accepted Masons
OF MINNESOTA,

AT ITS
TWENTY-SEVENTH GRAND ANNUAL COMMUNICATION,
IN THE CITY OF SAINT PAUL,
JANUARY 13TH AND 14TH, A. D. 1880, A.°. L.°. 5880.

ORDERED TO BE READ IN ALL THE LODGES.

M.°. W.°. HENRY R. WELLS, G.°. M.°, PRESTON.
R.°. W.°. A. T. C. PIERSON, G.°. S.°, SAINT PAUL.

SAINT PAUL:
MILLER & RICH, BOOK AND JOB PRINTERS,
28 East Third Street.
1880.



PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Grand Lodge of Minnesota.

TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

FIRST DAY.

In pursuance of the provisions of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge convened at Masonic Hall, St. Paul, on Tuesday, January 13, 1880, at 12 o'clock, M.

The Grand Master, assisted by the following officers, opened a lodge of Master Masons, preparatory to the opening of the Grand Lodge:

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. H. R. WELLS.....	Grand Master.
R. W. C. H. BENTON.....	Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. C. N. DANIELS.....	Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. W. T. WILKINS, as.....	Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. J. H. THOMPSON.....	Grand Treasurer.
R. W. A. T. C. PIERSON.....	Grand Secretary.
R. W. G. H. DAVIS.....	Grand Orator.
R. W. J. M. D. CRAFT.....	Grand Standard Bearer.
R. W. E. E. CORLISS.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
R. W. WILLIAM STRAFFORD.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
R. W. JOHN A. JOHNSON.....	Grand Pursuivant.

R.. W.. H. R. DENNY.....	Grand Senior Steward.
R.. W.. J. F. REPPY.....	Grand Junior Steward.
R.. W.. HARRY BURNINGHAM.....	Grand Tyler.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

M.. W.. A. T. C. PIERSON.....	Past Grand Master.
M.. W.. C. W. NASH.....	Past Grand Master.
M.. W.. G. B. COOLEY.....	Past Grand Master.
M.. W.. E. W. DURANT.....	Past Grand Master.
R.. W.. A. GOODRICH.....	Past Deputy Grand Master.
R.. W.. S. E. ADAMS.....	Past Senior Grand Warden.
R.. W.. WM. LEE.....	Past Junior Grand Warden.
R.. W.. A. C. SMITH.....	Past Junior Grand Warden.
R.. W.. FRED. JOSS.....	Past Junior Grand Warden.
R.. W.. J. W. MORFORD	Past Junior Grand Warden.
R.. W.. E. P. BARNUM.....	Past Junior Grand Warden.
R.. W.. A. J. EDGERTON.....	Past Junior Grand Warden.
R.. W.. C. O. BALL.....	Past Junior Grand Warden.

Representatives of one hundred and twelve lodges responded to the call of the roll.

There being a constitutional number of lodges represented, the Grand Master proceeded to open the Grand Lodge of Minnesota in AMPLE FORM.

Rev. Bro. G. H. Davis, acting as Grand Chaplain.

COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.

The Grand Master appointed the brothers Grand Secretary, Albert Marden (98) and Nathan R. Booth, (58,) a Committee on Credentials.

The Grand Lodge was called to refreshment for half an hour. On resuming labor, the committee reported as follows, which was adopted, and the committee continued :

To the M.. W.. Grand Lodge of Minnesota :

The Committee on Credentials respectfully report, that in addition to Grand and Past Grand Officers, who answered to the call of the roll, they find that the subordinate lodges are represented as follows :

REPRESENTATIVES.

St. Johns, No. 1.....	W. F. Gorrie, W. M. . Frank Chase, J. W. .
Catact, No. 2.....	W. E. Johnson, S. W. .
St. Paul, No. 3.....	Wm. H. Grant, W. M. . H. Brand, S. W. .
Hennepin, No. 4.....	W. A. Miller, W. M. . Cyrus Rothchild, S. W. .
Ancient Landmark, No. 5.....	W. D. Cornish, W. M. . O. G. Miller, proxy for S. W. . W. E. Burton, J. W. .
Dakota, No. 7.....	Irving Todd, W. M. . R. J. Marvin, proxy for S. W. .
Red Wing, No. 8.....	Lucius A. Hancock, W. M. . J. C. Hawes, proxy for S. W. . Wm. H. Putnam, J. W. .
Faribault, No. 9.....	Geo. M. Andrews, W. M. .
Mantorville, No. 11.....	Ambrose La Due, W. M. .
Mankato, No. 12.....	Chas. H. Parsons, S. W. .
Wapahasa, No. 14.....	Not represented.
Monticello, No. 16.....	Henry Kreis, W. M. .
Hokah, No. 17.....	A. J. Snure, proxy for Lodge.
Winona, No. 18.....	Thos. A. Richardson, J. W. .
Minneapolis, No. 19.....	James M. Williams, J. W. .
Caledonia, No. 20.....	Charles A. Coe, W. M. .
Rochester, No. 21.....	R. H. Gove, W. M. . R. L. Van Dusen, S. W. .
Pleasant Grove, No. 22.....	O. H. Page, W. M. .
North Star, No. 23.....	J. V. Brower, proxy for Lodge.
Wilton, No. 24.....	H. C. Woodbury, W. M. . G. H. Woodbury, proxy for J. W. .
Western Star, No. 26.....	C. M. Wilkison, proxy for Lodge.
Blue Earth Valley, No. 27.....	Tobias L. Rice, W. M. .
Clearwater, No. 28.....	Geo. P. Fish, W. M. .
Morning Star, No. 29.....	James C. Day, W. M. . H. T. Gurley, proxy for S. W. .
Anoka, No. 30.....	A. A. Hilton, W. M. . J. P. Hunter, J. W. .
King Hiram, No. 31.....	Rufus P. Wells, S. W. .
Sakatah, No. 32.....	R. W. Jacklin, W. M. .
Star in the East, No. 33.....	L. L. Wheelock, W. M. . Henry Birkett, J. W. .
Oriental, No. 34.....	Joseph E. Chapman, W. M. .

Mount Moriah, No. 35.....	J. E. Finch, W. M.
	A. H. Truax, proxy for S. W.
Preston, No. 36.....	Wallace W. Braden, W. M.
	Geo. W. Hard, J. W.
Mystic Tie, No. 37.....	M. A. Robinson, proxy for Lodge.
Washington, No. 38.....	Melvin G. Peters, W. M.
Fidelity, No. 39.....	W. T. Wilkins, W. M.
Carnelian, No. 40.....	John Wear, W. M.
	G. W. T. Wright, proxy for S. W.
Hermon, No. 41.....	Chas. B. Anderson, S. W.
	B. C. Grover, proxy for J. W.
Hope, No. 42.....	D. Tupper, W. M.
Harmony, No. 43.....	I. C. Slade, W. M.
King Solomon, No. 44.....	Joseph Newton, J. W.
Union, No. 45.....	E. P. Rutan, W. M.
Evergreen, No. 46.....	S. L. Draper, S. W.
Concord, No. 47.....	Wm. H. Hall, W. M.
Social, No. 48.....	F. A. Noble, W. M.
Rising Sun, No. 49.....	Robert Mears, S. W.
Watertown, No. 50.....	Chas. G. Halgreen, W. M.
Acacia, No. 51.....	Arthur H. Steen, W. M.
	Henry Schultz, S. W.
	Wallace Kelsey, J. W.
Cannon River, No. 52.....	George Molin, W. M.
	Winfield Snyder, J. W.
Nicollet, No. 54.....	E. S. Pettijohn, W. M.
	C. M. Benham, S. W.
	Thos. Montgomery, proxy for J. W.
Zion, No. 55.....	Geo. W. Seymour, W. M.
Meridian, No. 56.....	George Andrus, W. M.
	S. S. McKinney, S. W.
Blue Earth City, No. 57.....	Not represented.
Spring Valley, No. 58.....	N. R. Booth, W. M.
	J. D. Farmer, proxy for S. W.
Temple, No. 59.....	Chas. H. Stinchfield, W. M.
	J. N. Ives, J. W.
Star in the West, No. 60.....	Lucas Kells, S. W.
Ashlar, No. 61.....	C. S. Andrews, W. M.
	E. M. Weston, S. W.
	S. E. Keeler, J. W.
Star, No. 62.....	Isaac P. Harvey, J. W.
Illustrious, No. 63.....	Augustus Smith, W. M.
Chain Lake, No. 64.....	Edward W. Bird, S. W.

Golden Rule, No. 65.....	John C. Higgins, W.· M.· R. H. Sanderson, proxy for S.· W.·
Madelia, No. 66.....	J. P. Furber, W.· M.·
Corinthian, No. 67.....	J. M. D. Craft, W.· M.·
Mystic Star, No. 69.....	Not represented.
Paynesville, No. 71.....	Edward H. Bates, W.· M.·
Lausang, No. 72.....	P. D. Vaughn, proxy for Lodge.
Brownsville, No. 73.....	Not represented.
Minneiska, No. 74.....	Not represented.
Eureka, No. 75.....	J. D. Allen, W.· M.·
Joppa, No. 76.....	L. Cook, W.· M.· S. S. Ingram, proxy for S.· W.·
Tuscan, No. 77.....	R. L. McCormick, S.· W.·
Mystic Circle, No. 78.....	Not represented.
Palestine, No. 79.....	John R. Carey, S.· W.·
Henderson, No. 80.....	J. P. Kirby, W.· M.·
Constellation, No. 81.....	Geo. W. Robards, W.· M.·
Howard, No. 82.....	Chas. W. Rickerson, W.· M.· Wallace Goodsell, S.· W.·
Hiram Abi, No. 83.....	Hiram Hatch, W.· M.·
Orient, No. 84.....	Moses Emery, W.· M.· Gilbert M. Corey, S.· W.·
High Forest, No. 85.....	Not represented.
Tyrian, No. 86.....	E. S. Hyde, W.· M.· Geo. Johnson, proxy for S.· W.· George Hall, J.· W.·
Doric, No. 87.....	Not represented.
Golden Fleece, No. 89.....	J. Q. A. Braden, proxy for W.· M.· E. Kimball, proxy for S.· W.· Henry Ames, J.· W.·
Good Faith, No. 90.....	Alex. Fiddes, W.· M.·
Antiquity, No. 91.....	Not represented.
Fraternal, No. 92.....	Joseph L. Carter, W.· M.· D. A. Caley, proxy for S.· W.·
Unity, No. 93.....	Not represented.
Keystone, No. 94.....	J. M. Thompson, W.· M.·
Sherburne, No. 95.....	Chas. S. Wheaton, W.· M.·
Libanus, No. 96.....	J. S. Aldritt, S.· W.·
Prudence, No. 97.....	C. H. Smith, W.· M.·

Charity, No. 98	Albert Marden, W. M.
Corner Stone, No. 99.....	James Compton, W. M.
	Solan Listoe, S. W.
Aurora, No. 100.....	Not represented.
Fraternity, No. 101.....	A. C. Robinson, W. M.
Lebanon, No. 102.....	D. W. Hall, W. M.
Bethel, No. 103.....	A. J. Murphy, W. M.
Sharon, No. 104.....	F. R. Bunker, W. M.
	J. H. Brown, proxy for S. W.
	A. B. Hanscom, J. W.
Shilo, No. 105.....	Not represented.
Mt. Tabor, No. 106.....	F. C. Choate, J. W.
Adoniram, No. 107.....	Not represented.
Relief, No. 108.....	J. E. Getman, W. M.
Sunset, No. 109.....	Not represented.
Pickwick, No. 110.....	J. L. Finch, W. M.
Carver, No. 111.....	Henry R. Denny, W. M.
Khurum, No. 112.....	E. J. Davenport, W. M.
	A. H. Keith, J. W.
Excelsior, No. 113.....	Dana C. Hunt, W. M.
	O. C. Meaker, proxy for S. & J. W.
Ben Franklin, No. 114.....	James L. Helm, W. M.
	Robert O. Crawford, S. W.
Elgin, No. 115.....	D. F. Ferguson, W. M.
LaFayette, No. 116.....	J. B. Graves, W. M.
	S. Ives, proxy for S. W.
Granite, No. 117.....	Ira O. Russell, S. W.
Newport, No. 118.....	H. A. Durand, W. M.
	F. Cranshaw, S. W.
Delta, No. 119.....	Not represented.
Bismarck, No. 120.....	Not represented.
Grand Meadow, No. 121.....	Not represented.
Kellogg, No. 122.....	James E. Gage, W. M.
Prairie, No. 123.....	Charles D. Giddings, J. W.
Janesville, No. 124.....	Luke Kellogg, W. M.
Winslow Lewis, No. 125.....	Geo. W. Savage, W. M.
Moorhead, No. 126.....	Sam. Partridge, proxy for W. M.
	C. W. Linwood, proxy for J. W.
Centennial, No. 127.....	Minor Ball, J. W.
Josephus, No. 128.....	John M. Sprague, proxy for Lodge.
Swift, No. 129.....	J. B. Clarke, W. M.
Arcturus, No. 130.....	O. Whitman, W. M.
	H. C. Hodgman, S. W.

Alma, No. 131.....	J. S. Bowers, W. . M. .
Humbolt, No. 132.....	Julius H. Ackerman, W. . M. .
Golden Sheaf, No. 133.....	Henry Hutchins, W. . M. .
Cokato, No. 134.....	E. H. Farnham, W. . M. .
Nelson, No. 135.....	O. H. Bushnell, W. . M. .
Walnut, No. 136.....	Not represented.

Lodges No. 69 and 109 answered to roll call, but as neither of the representatives—Bro. B. N. Ohlhous, of No. 69, and Bro. W. B. Wilson, of 109—had arrived at the rank of Warden, they cannot, under our regulations, be recognized as representatives.

Fraternally submitted,

A. T. C. PIERSON,
ALBERT MARDEN,
NATHAN R. BOOTH,
Committee.

VACANCIES.

The M. . W. . Grand Master designated—

Bro. W. T. WILKINS, as.....	Grand Junior Warden.
Bro. W. H. HALL, as.....	Grand Chaplain.
Bro. R. H. GOVE, as.....	Grand Marshal.
Bro. O. C. MEAKER, as.....	Grand Sword Bearer.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY.

The Grand Secretary announced, that in accordance with the resolution adopted at the annual communication of 1879, he had designated Bro. Thos. Montgomery as his Assistant.

RESOLUTION.

On motion of Bro. O. G. Miller, (5,) it was—

Resolved, That all Master Masons in good standing be invited to seats in the Grand Lodge during its present session.

The Grand Lodge was called off until 3 o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

3 o'clock P. M.

Officers and members as at the morning session.

COMMITTEES.

The M. W. Grand Master announced the following committees:

RETURNS OF LODGES.

Bros. O. Whitman, (130,) A. J. Snure, (17,) G. W. Seymour, (55.)

LODGES U. D.

Bros. E. J. Davenport, (112,) O. H. Page, (22,) J. W. Morford, (33.)

BOOKS OF GRAND SECRETARY AND GRAND TREASURER.

Bros. H. R. Denny, (111,) Frank Chase, (1,) W. W. Braden, (36.)

APPEALS AND GRIEVANCES.

Bros. J. H. Brown, (104,) W. D. Cornish, (5,) J. E. Chapman, (34,) R. H. Gove, (21,) Charles D. Halgreen, (50.)

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Bros. A. T. C. Pierson, (5,) Aaron Goodrich, (3,) G. H. Davis, (23.)

ANCIENT LANDMARKS.

Bros. A. C. Smith, (89,) C. O. Ball, (7,) R. H. Sanderson, (65,) Albert Marden, (98,) D. C. Hunt, (113.)

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

Bros. C. W. Nash, (35,) G. B. Cooley, (11,) E. W. Durant, (1,) A. J. Edgerton, (11,) W. H. Grant, (3.)

APPROPRIATIONS.

Bros. E. P. Barnum, (60,) W. F. Gorrie, (1,) L. A. Hancock, (8.)

PAY ROLL.

Bros. J. H. Thompson, (19,) G. W. Hard, (36,) C. M. Benham, (54.)

PRINTING.

Bros. A. T. C. Pierson, (5,) O. G. Miller, (5,) W. A. Miller, (4.)

The M.·. W.·. Grand Master then read the following

ADDRESS:

Brethren of the Grand Lodge :

We are again permitted to assemble about our altar in Grand Annual Communication, to exchange fraternal greetings, to deliberate upon the things needful for the welfare and prosperity of the craft under our guidance and care, and to acknowledge our dependence upon and our gratitude to God, whom we, as masons, reverence and serve, for his kind paternal care over us, and for the manifold blessings he has bestowed upon us during the past year. While tempests, wars pestilence and famine have rioted in desolation, bringing pain and death to other communities and people, we have not only been spared, but the sun of prosperity so long obscured has again risen resplendent ; peace and industry reign supreme among us, finding glad response in thankful, happy hearts.

While our hearts are overflowing with gratitude for blessings bestowed upon us, we yield tearful submission to that call which has taken from our circle to the Grand Lodge on high our Brother R.·. W.·. Ingmund Ingmundson, District Deputy Grand Master for the 14th district.

Brother Ingmundson was born in Moos, in Norway, near Christiana, in November, 1838 ; died at Austin City August 4th, 1879. When fifteen years of age he migrated with his parents to this country and settled in Iowa. In August, 1861, he enlisted in the army ; served as a member of General McClellan's staff, and subsequently in the 12th Illinois Cavalry. He won the esteem and respect of all by his bravery and genial disposition.

I was honored with the friendship of our brother and can attest

to his great personal worth. As a citizen, he was honored with positions of great responsibility and trust, ever acquitting himself with credit in all the relations in life; a devoted husband and affectionate father, and a most zealous and accomplished mason. He was for three years Worshipful Master of Fidelity Lodge, No. 39, and represented his lodge in the Grand Lodge with ability. Was High Priest of his chapter, and for three years past has held the position of District Deputy Grand Master. He proved his faith by his acts, and illustrated the spirit of truth in his life. It was with mournful satisfaction that I was permitted to attend at his last sad rites.

He was buried with the impressive ceremonies of our order, R.·. W.·. W. T. Wilkins officiating, assisted by a large concourse of masons from Mower and adjacent counties and many citizens.

May our lives be wedded to duty and our end be like his.

Since my arrival at St. Paul, I have been informed of the death of Bro. A. J. Van Voorhes, at Stillwater, Jan. 24th, 1879.

Bro. Van Voorhes was the first Junior Grand Warden of this Grand Lodge, and a member of St. Johns Lodge, No. 1.

LODGES CHARTERED.

The lodges chartered at your last session were constituted, and the officers installed as follows:

Cokato, No. 134, at Cokato, by R.·. W.·. G. A. Camp;

Nelson, No. 135, at Buffalo, by R.·. W.·. S. E. Adams;

Walnut, No. 136, at Walnut Station, by R.·. W.·. Albert Marden, whose several reports are on file.

The following lodges U.·. D.·. were continued under dispensation by direction, and will ask for charters at this session:

Messiah, at Appleton.

Fidelity, at Verndale.

Orion, at Atwater.

I call your attention to the fact that we have one lodge in this jurisdiction chartered as Fidelity Lodge, No. 39, and that it will be proper to change the name of Fidelity U.·. D.·. when charter is granted to avoid confusion.

DISPENSATIONS.

Dispensations to form new lodges have been granted as follows :

April 28, 1879. Little Falls Lodge, Little Falls, Morrison County. Bros. J. H. Rhodes, W.. M.. ; A. Farmer, S.. W.. ; J. D. Harkers, J.. W..

Nov. 20, 1879. Crookston Lodge, at Crookston, Polk County. Bros. Morris R. Brown, W.. M.. ; William Box, S.. W.. ; James Henry Thomas J.. W..

The petition presented to the Grand Lodge at its last session by a number of persons claiming to be masons, and praying for a dispensation to form a new lodge in St. Paul, and by the Grand Lodge referred to me, has been returned by me, declining to grant the prayer of the petitioners, for the reason among others, that the masonic status of the petitioners was not vouched for, on the contrary it appears from the face of the petition that, with one or two exceptions, they belong to organizations not recognized by us, and we cannot hold masonic intercourse with them. The correctness of our requirement that our colored fellow citizens shall conform to the same rules, pursue the same beaten paths through regularly organized lodges required by others who attain to masonic privileges and honors, cannot be questioned.

Other petitions for dispensations to establish new lodges have been presented, but returned for various reasons, generally because the good of masonry, in my judgment, did not demand the establishing of the lodges desired.

GRAND LODGE REPRESENTATIVES.

To continue our fraternal relations, I have appointed the following brothers as Representatives of this Grand Lodge, who have accepted :

Bro. Charles C. King, near the G.. L.. of Delaware, in place of P.. G.. M.. G. W. Chaytor, deceased.

Bro. Hugh B. Jones, near the G.. L.. of Maryland, in place of R.. W.. J. McJilton, deceased.

R.. W.. Thomas Simpson, near the G.. L.. of Quebec.

R.. W.. Henry S. Jost, near the G.. L.. of Nova Scotia.

R.. W.. —————, near the G.. L.. of Arkansas.

DECISIONS.

Of the decisions I have made during the year, I submit the following:

1. *Question*.—Can the Master elect of a subordinate lodge, although an actual Past Master, be lawfully installed by proxy?

Answer.—No. Installations by proxy are not authorized within this jurisdiction.

2. A brother receiving the degrees or any of them in a lodge other than the one that received and acted upon his petition, is not entitled to become a member of the lodge doing the work, simply by signing the by-laws, he must first sign the by-laws of the lodge that elected him, and then, after being regularly dimitted, he may apply for admission to any lodge he wishes to join in the jurisdiction of which he is a resident. (G. . L. . Pro. 1874, p. 17.)

3. A lodge conferring the degrees at the request of the lodge which received and acted upon his petition obtains no jurisdiction, over M. . M. . so made, it remains with the lodge that elected him.

4. To constitute a brother, a member of a lodge, except he be a charter member, he must in addition to other requirements, sign the by-laws, until he does so he is non-affiliate.

5. Under the usages and regulations in this jurisdiction, only one ballot is authorized for all the degrees. Advancement to any degree may be stayed by objection properly taken subject to the discretion of the W. . M. .

6. The applicant must reside within the jurisdiction of the lodge for the period of one year before such lodge can entertain and act upon his petition for the degrees. If rejected the applicant may again present his petition after the expiration of six months.

7. Brothers who work lodges U. . D. . are liable to the lodges from which they hail for lodge dues.

8. The Grand Lodge is vested with power to the exclusion of subordinate lodges, to restore to the rights and privileges of masonry a brother who has been indefinitely suspended or expelled.

9. Subordinate lodges are not authorized to exempt M.:s from lodge dues, except secretary, chaplain and tyler.

10. Brothers who petition for and to whom a charter for a new lodge is granted are thereby constituted members of the lodge, having all the powers and privileges of members made in the lodge, and who have signed the by-laws. They become members perforce of the charter and the power granting it.

11. The loss of the third and fourth fingers of the right hand is not such a physical maiming as will debar a person otherwise qualified from receiving the degrees in masonry.

12. The loss of the thumb and first two fingers of the right hand is such physical maiming as will debar a person receiving the degrees in masonry.

The foregoing are a few only of the decisions I have rendered. I have taken the liberty of disregarding, in a measure, the rule requiring all decisions rendered to be reported and published, to avoid repetition, for many of those queries above have been repeated several times, and many, if given, would be too conspicuous for their simplicity and barrenness of information, chiefly relating to business matters and not involving principles of masonic law. Fraternal courtesy requires that all communications be answered, and that all questions propounded shall be duly considered. I believe I have answered every communication received by me, and as promptly as practicable. Past Grand Master Durant, in his address to you in 1879, commented somewhat upon the neglect on the part of our brothers who have charge of the craft, to properly and carefully advise themselves as to the requirements and provisions of our constitution, laws and edicts as given in our published proceedings. Appreciating the importance of the fact and at the suggestions of our Grand Secretary, it was directed that the constitution and resolutions of our G.: L.: in force be published with and made a part of our G.: L.: proceedings for 1879, which was done. Also, our Brother Irving Todd has compiled and published a complete digest of our constitution, laws, regulations and edicts in force, which is accurate, of great convenience and will prove of great advantage to the craft. I commend it to the fraternity throughout this jurisdiction. With the aid of these publications and the

attention they will command, I am satisfied that very much of useful information will be diffused important to those who govern lodges, saving much valuable time now lost in seeking by correspondence, what may be acquired by limited research.

VISITATIONS.

Our Grand Lodge Constitution recognizes and seeks to enforce by positive enactment the visitation, annually, of the subordinate lodges. Our experience and observation enforces upon our attention and conviction the necessity that, for the good order and prosperity of our lodges, this provision of our fundamental law should be complied with.

It has long been recognized as impracticable for the Grand Master to perform, in person, this most essential duty, and many and various methods have been devised to meet this requirement.

First, the District Deputy system, then a Grand Lecturer; lastly, the District Deputy Grand Master system now in force. All have alike proved efficient at first. Of the different plans, I am convinced that the Grand Lecturer is most efficient and beneficial, and should be eventually adopted; but we can only indulge in the luxury of a Grand Lecturer when business is buoyant, and not in times of financial depression like the present and past few years.

For the past year, in the desire to accomplish or procure visitations, I redistricted the jurisdiction under the regulation adopted for the purpose, multiplying the districts to fifteen in number, thus requiring less of the Deputies than heretofore, hoping thereby to secure the much needed result. Of the Deputies appointed, as reported in the G. . . L. . . proceedings for 1879—all brothers of high standing and great experience—two vacancies have occurred; one by death, the other by removal from the jurisdiction. Two have made report: R. . . W. . . Albert Marden of the 8th District, R. . . W. . . Thos. Montgomery of the 9th District, and to which reports your attention is called. Others of the Deputies have, in person and by letter, made informal reports that the lodges under their care, respectively, were, in the main, in good working condition and doing good work. They are provided with safe and commo-

dious halls, well furnished, and are under the guidance of zealous and accomplished craftsmen. The exceptions are limited. Minnieska, 74, owing to the migration of most of its members, has applied for leave to surrender its charter. I have directed R. W. I. B. Cummings, in whose district the lodge is situate, to see that the lodge is properly summoned, and if the charter is to be surrendered, that he take possession of the property interests of the lodge, and report his action without delay.

I invite your serious consideration to one feature of the business methods that obtain, to a large extent among the subordinate lodges, as developed in the reports, and that is the tendency to contract indebtedness, and in many instances with too little consideration of their resources and ability, or want of them, to pay their obligations. In one instance I note a report of liabilities on the part of the lodge at three hundred dollars; assets, none. There are other similar instances.

My assistance was desired some months since to adjust a matter between one of our lodges and its creditors. About ten years since the lodge, being in flourishing circumstances, and having every prospect for a prosperous future, issued its bonds for three thousand dollars, bearing interest at ten per cent. per annum, payable in ten years, and negotiated the bonds to secure means with which to build a hall, which they accomplished. They placed their structure upon a lot, the title to which was defective. Misfortunes came, the bonds were about to mature, the lodge had no means with which to meet them, and they were in despair. Luckily, at the last moment, title to the property was secured, the bonds were refunded in new ones, to run twenty years at 7 per cent., and the lodge has taken a new hold on life, and are filled with hope that some time they may pay their enormous debt.

I mention this instance to illustrate the extent of liability which lodges will assume when unadvised. These questions present themselves: Are lodges in their capacity as associations authorized to incur debts for any purpose? If liabilities are so incurred and disaster comes, as it may, and the lodge cannot meet and cancel their obligations, their charter surrendered or arrested, all their property interests absorbed by the Grand Lodge, what are the obligations and liabilities of the G. L. for the payment of

such debts? The individual who incurs obligations to his fellow without resource to meet it, dishonors himself in the act. May not our subordinate lodges become obnoxious to the charge of like gravity, and if so, who more to blame than this Grand Lodge, which having plenary restraining power, fails to exercise it for the protection of its subordinates, its own credit, and the best interests of the craft?

Section 13, of title third of our Grand Lodge Constitution provides as follows :

"All governmental powers, whether executive, legislative or judicial, not expressly delegated by the Grand Lodge, are inherent in, and reserved to it, as the supreme governing body."

See also section 9 of same title.

In this provision, as I construe it, we find ample power and warrant for the purpose indicated.

BY-LAWS.

It is absolutely essential to the successful working of our subordinate lodges, that they be provided with a good substantial code of by-laws consistent with themselves and not in derogation of the G. . L. . Constitution, its rules and edicts. Many of our wisest and most zealous Grand Masters fully appreciating this need and cognizant of the sad deficiency in that respect, have recommended the adoption of a code of by-laws by the G. . L. . to be imposed on the subordinate lodges to meet a great need and to attain uniformity. It is claimed by some of our brothers well versed in masonic law and usage that the power does not exist in the G. . L. . to do this, and, if it did, it would be impracticable. All agree as to its desirability. I am clear that under our constitution the power does exist, and from my observation and knowledge of the deficiency in form and substance in many of the codes adopted by some of our subordinate lodges, I am equally confident that the power should be exercised to a certain extent. To accomplish the desired result, and, without raising the question of the extent of power, or the propriety of its exercise by the G. . L. . I suggest that a committee be appointed to report to the G. . L. . a code of by-laws, to be

published with our proceedings, as a suggestion and for the information of our subordinate lodges, with a recommendation that the subordinate lodges, as often as they may change their by-laws or adopt new ones, conform to the published code as near as may be deemed desirable. In this way I have no doubt that the end sought will be accomplished within a reasonable time and that it will be of permanent advantage.

DUES.

The reports of lodges for the past year show renewed activity in the work.

The membership is steadily increasing, though the order of striking from the roll, under our regulation for that purpose, is still enforced.

The necessity for the exercise of this rule is lamentable but not to be avoided. Lamentable, because it develops those among us who hold so lightly the high privileges and honors affiliation brings, its associations and attendant pleasures which they betray and sacrifice for a paltry stipend. Dues should be fixed at the lowest practicable amount, and then they should be collected. Especial care must be taken that we do not strike down the needy brother—be merciful but just. Without the prompt payment of dues the lodges, as we now administer them, must go down, leaving no monument to show that it ever existed. The hall must be constructed or procured which is to constitute our home; it must be furnished to make it at once comfortable and attractive; masonic clothing and working tools must be had, as well as all things essential; and justice requires that all this be done from a common fund to which all contribute, and not alone from the more liberally disposed.

GRAND LODGE FUNDS.

It is a source of gratification, after the very unsatisfactory experience we have had for years past, that our Grand Lodge funds are now in such a commendable condition. The total receipts from all sources for the past year was the grand total of four

thousand two hundred and one dollars, including charter fees of the last session, and for dispensations. All claims have been fully paid, and we now have a balance in the hands of the R. W. Grand Treasurer of one thousand four hundred and fifty-seven and 30-100 dollars.

There was appropriated and set apart at our last session, for a Widows' and Orphans' Fund, the sum of five hundred dollars, which it is to be hoped is the beginning of a fixed and enduring monument attesting our appreciation of the holy purpose and object for which our organization exists.

This, and all funds so willingly and generously brought to our keeping by our subordinate lodges, should be contemplated as a sacred trust, dedicated to charity, and should be guarded by us with zealous watchfulness, and we should see to it, that it be not wasted in extravagance nor impaired by needless expenditure.

Our general regulations, section 84, provide "that the management of the permanent funds shall be vested in a board of trustees of the permanent fund, said board to be composed of the Grand Master, Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary;" but, by resolution of the Grand Lodge adopted in 1866, the Grand Treasurer was instructed "to invest funds in his possession, after paying the appropriations, and retaining five hundred dollars as contingent fund, in bonds of the United States of the issue known as seven-thirties."

It is not clear that this resolution was intended as a permanent direction to be followed in all the future in contravention of the general regulation quoted, yet since the Grand Lodge had assumed to so direct, and that no bonds of the description given could now be obtained, the committee thought it best to await further advisory action on the part of the Grand Lodge, rather than take the responsibility of making investment of the Grand Lodge funds, especially since the sources for profitable and safe investment are so limited. I think a carefully defined regulation should be adopted in that regard.

LODGE CHARITY.

There has a practice, reprehensible in my judgment, obtained to

a degree among subordinate lodges in our own and other Grand Lodge jurisdictions, of calling upon the lodge of which a sojourning brother, in want, is a member, for remuneration, and in some cases for compensation for relief extended. I esteem this course as subversive of the great underlying fundamental principle of our institution. It is making relief a subject of charge, and charity a creature of commerce. To relieve a worthy brother in distress, so far as we may do, without injury to ourselves, is our prerogative and our duty. If actuated by the expectation of a fee or hope of reward in sustaining a falling brother it is a prostitution of our high calling. I am aware that the practice alluded to has the countenance and support of very many conscientious brothers, and I fraternally concede to them the best intentions and purest motives. It is based upon the ground that there is nothing inconsistent with our principles and the motives which actuate us in rendering a statement of expenses incurred for an afflicted brother or his family in distress, to the lodge from which he hails, and leaving it to their masonic courtesy to reimburse, if they may and their financial condition will warrant. I cannot see a distinction between this course of action and an actual demand, and if otherwise it is so absolutely certain to degenerate and become a subject of gross abuse, that I hope to see this Grand Lodge give emphatic expression of its sense of the practice, and if in accord with its judgment, that subordinate lodges within this jurisdiction be prohibited from directly or indirectly presenting any claim upon a sister lodge, within this or any jurisdiction—except upon request,—for reimbursement for moneys expended for the relief of a sojourning brother in distress.

DUAL MEMBERSHIP.

I regret to say that the action of our Grand Lodge at its last session again opened the question of dual membership, repealing all regulations heretofore adopted forbidding it, and deluging us with all its consuming perplexities. This action was taken under the advisement of our committee on masonic jurisprudence, than whom we cannot among our number select more zealous, intelligent and conscientious brothers, nor any better fitted to

consider matters of interest to the craft. It is with sincere regret that I am compelled to announce, that in administering the affairs of the Grand Lodge the past year. I have found myself, under the dictate of my best judgment, obliged to overrule their determination as ratified and confirmed by the Grand Lodge, else against the law as I construe it, declare one of the chartered lodges without legal standing for want of membership, the lodge having been constituted without the charter members first having withdrawn formally by dimit from the lodges from which they hailed.

In Grand Lodge proceedings for 1879, page 46, *et seq.*, appears the action referred to.

The position taken is substantially—

1. That it is necessary for a brother to sign the by-laws before he can become a member of the lodge.
2. That the Grand Lodge has no power to sever the membership of a brother from his lodge except by disciplinary action.
3. That in the absence of a specific regulation of the Grand Lodge, a mason can join as many lodges as will receive him.

After a careful consideration of the important questions involved and some research, moved by a desire to preserve the status of the newly instituted lodges, if consistent with the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, not actuated by any desire to criticise or to provoke discussion, I determined, in my own judgment, and so decided—

First—That a brother who joined in the petition to the Grand Lodge, to be with others so joining, constituted a new lodge, becomes when the charter is granted a member, an integral part of the new lodge so chartered and constituted per force of the power given to the Grand Lodge by the Constitution to constitute new lodges.

“My brothers, what is a lodge?”

The initiate who responds from the northeast corner, “a certain number of masons,” &c., finds authority for his response in the lecture, also in section 3 of our Grand Lodge Constitution, and in section 16, which provides for lodge organization.

It may not have by-laws to sign, yet it is a lodge, and may make masons, though it may not enlarge its membership.

Section 26, of the Constitution, provides—

“That none but Master Masons and those who have signed the by-laws, can be members of a subordinate or particular lodge.”

Do the constitutional seven (7) or more Master Masons who are constituted a lodge when they shall have adopted by-laws for their government and for newly made Master Masons to sign, become ousted by that act of their constitutional and chartered rights as a lodge?

See also, Sub. 2, Sec. 16 of Title Fourth.

Second—It may be conceded, for argument's sake, that the Grand Lodge may not arbitrarily sever the membership of a brother from his home lodge, except by disciplinary action. Yet the signing the petition to the Grand Lodge for permission to organize a new lodge, the receiving the dispensation and warrant in response, the being constituted a new lodge is the result of the voluntary act of the brother, and will operate as a limit.

Third—A mason cannot be a member of more than one lodge at one time, for the reasons:

1. He ought only to be a member of the lodge in the jurisdiction of which he resides, that it may have the full benefit of his energies and zeal.

2. It is contrary to masonic law and usage, as the great weight of masonic authority discloses.

3. It is incompatible with our representative system which the Constitution inalienably secures to each subordinate lodge.

Secs. 13 and 20, Title 2d, of the Const.

If a brother may be a member of more than one lodge he may be W. . Master of many. He could only represent one in the Grand Lodge at the same time, leaving his other lodges unrepresented; or if he could represent all, he may so multiply his masonic privileges as to wield a controlling power and influence in the Grand Lodge, to the exclusion of his brothers, and utterly destructive of the principles of fraternal equality.

4. The Constitution, by reasonable construction, forbids it. It, in express terms, suspends his membership in his home lodge while working a lodge U. . D. ., the suspension to be determined in new membership if charter be granted, or to revert if otherwise.

If a brother may belong to both lodges when constituted, why suspend his membership in the one while U. . D. . ? I ask the candid and serious consideration of the Grand Lodge to this subject, to the end that this vexed question may be finally determined. It is a duty that we owe to the subordinate lodges, that we place our Grand Lodge upon the solid foundation occupied by nearly every other Grand Lodge jurisdiction, and if it be deemed necessary to so amend our Grand Lodge Constitution to reach that end let us do so.

FOREIGN GRAND LODGES.

This G. . L. . entered into fraternal relations with the G. . L. . of Colon, at Havana, in 1860, which, owing to the disturbed condition of affairs in that island have been interrupted. There has been an attempt on the part of some of the lodges in that jurisdiction to form another G. . L. ., which is asking recognition. The correspondence received from these rival claimants is somewhat voluminous and is herewith laid before you. I can see no good ground or reason for withdrawing our recognition of the G. . L. . of Colon and bestowing it upon the so-called G. . L. . of Cuba.

A majority of the lodges in Australia, holding charters granted by the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland and Scotland, respectively, have formed a G. . L. . called the G. . L. . of New South Wales, and ask of us recognition. It has not yet received, so far as we are advised, such recognition of its parent Grand Lodges, and I deem it advisable to wait further developments before we comply with their desire.

GRAND LODGE OF DAKOTA.

In May last I received a petition from Shilo Lodge, 105, at Fargo, embodying a resolution adopted by the lodge, asking permission to affiliate with the Grand Lodge of Dakota, they to retain their charter. The question of our G. . L. . relations with the G. . L. . of Dakota, having been presented to you at the last session and referred to a committee for investigation, and the

committee having reserved their report, by permission of the G. L. until this session, I withheld my sanction of the transfer and now lay the matter before you for your consideration.

The matter is in the hands of able and experienced craftsmen, who will so advise that we may act understandingly and in such a manner that the masonic world will still recognize that this Grand Lodge yet sustains its high position as conservator of masonic principles and courtesy, despite our arraignment. I hope we are prepared to make every concession consistent with honor and our duty to the brethren who look to us for fraternal care, to bridge the chasm opened between us and the fraternity of Dakota. They are of our kindred, and we will endeavor to maintain for ourselves true, cordial and fraternal relations with them, even though efforts shall continue to be made to precipitate dissensions.

Masonic usage dictates whenever a subordinate lodge of its obedience shall voluntarily request of its parent Grand Lodge to withdraw its affiliation in order to unite with other lodges in the same civil division or territory in which it is situate, in the forming a new Grand Lodge, or to merge its jurisdiction with that of a Grand Lodge already formed, that it be granted. In accordance with that principle I recommend that the prayer of the petition of Shilo Lodge, No. 105, be granted in the hope and desire that it may find true fraternal welcome and prosperity in its new relations.

I refrain from entering into the discussion of our relations with the Grand Lodge of Dakota since the whole subject stands committed to the committee as indicated, who will advise you fully. I will say this, however, that this Grand Lodge disclaims any intention to in any way encroach upon the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Dakota. Just in that degree that we should resist encroachments upon our own rights and dignity, so would we refrain from trespassing upon those of others. The claim that we have violated this principle is in my judgment assumption merely, and not warranted by the facts. Yet, if it be not conceded that there is a difference of opinion involved which will admit of discussion, an adjustment may not be reached. This must be conceded then with the true spirit of fraternity to guide us, a desire to reach conclusions, consistent with masonic

law, and justice, and the rights of all, the result cannot fail to produce that harmony which it is alike our duty and desire to reach.

CONCLUSION.

My brothers, one year ago when you so unexpectedly, to me, exalted me to the Grand East, I could only respond in the fullness of my heart, that I trusted I appreciated the responsibilities of the position and would endeavor to perform its duties with earnestness, and to the best of my judgment and ability. I now return to you the trust, with the assurance, that though I have found that I little comprehended the duties that lay before me, I have faithfully, to the extent of my very limited powers, endeavored to fulfill my pledge. My intercourse with the fraternity has been both profitable and pleasant to me, and, I hope, agreeable to us all.

Some brothers may think that I have been arbitrary in my rulings, but I can only assure you that I have been actuated by a desire to promote the highest good to ourselves and our order. Our rules are rigid, and should be rigidly adhered to, assuring the discipline of care, and thus distinguishing us.

May the blessings of heaven rest upon us, even as we observe our precepts and practice the virtues inculcated by our institution.

HENRY R. WELLS,

Grand Master.

REFERENCE.

On motion of Bro. G. B. Cooley, (11,) the address was referred to a committee of three for subdivision and reference.

Bros. G. B. Cooley, (11,) E. W. Durant, (1,) and A. J. Edgerton, (11,) were appointed such committee, which in a few moments presented the following report, which was adopted:

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota:

Your committee, to whom was referred the M. W. Grand Master's address for subdivision and reference, beg leave to report that they have had the said matter under consideration, and recommend the following:

That so much thereof as refers to our late Bros. R. W. Ingmund

Ingmundson and R. W. A. J. Van Voorhes, be referred to a special committee of five.

That so much thereof as refers to the decisions of the M. W. Grand Master, be referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

That so much thereof as refers to lodges chartered and dispensations granted, be referred to the Committee on Lodges U. D.

That so much as refers to Grand Lodge funds, be referred to a special committee of three.

That so much as refers to dual membership, be referred to Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

That so much thereof as refers to Grand Lodges of Dakota and Cuba, be referred to Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

That so much thereof as refers to masonic charity, be referred to a special committee of three.

That so much thereof as refers to by-laws and dues, be referred to Committee on Ancient Landmarks.

That the residue of the address be referred to a special committee of three.

Respectfully submitted,

GROVE B. COOLEY,
E. W. DURANT,
Committee.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed as such—

SPECIAL COMMITTEES.

On Deceased Brethren.—J. D. Allen, (75,) S. Ives, (116,) W. T. Wilkins, (39,) W. F. Gorrie, (1,) Irving Todd, (7.)

On G. L. Funds.—J. H. Thompson, (19,) S. E. Adams, (16,) C. H. Benton, (4.)

On Masonic Charity.—E. J. Davenport, (112,) J. V. Brower, (23,) R. W. Jacklin, (32.)

On Residue of Address.—Geo. H. Davis, (23,) R. H. Gove, (21,) O. H. Page, (22.)

GRAND SECRETARY'S REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota :

In compliance with Title 9, Sec. 61, subdivision 7, the Grand Secretary presents his annual report.

PROCEEDINGS.

The transactions of the last annual communication were printed and copies distributed in one week after the close of the session.

The Grand Lodge Constitutions had not been printed for several years. Some few changes had been made since last printed, and as there was not any copies in the Grand Secretary's office, upon consultation with the Grand Master, it was decided to print a new edition and bind up with the proceedings distributed to the lodges in the jurisdiction, keeping the balance to be distributed as required.

In doing this the bill was kept within the appropriation for printing.

CHARTERS.

The charters ordered at the last annual communication were severally made out and delivered as soon after the close of the session as practicable.

GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS.

An appropriation was made at the last annual communication to reimburse the Grand Lodge of Texas, it having paid the expenses of a lodge at Houston, incurred while in charge of the body of our late Grand Master, J. C. Braden, while at that city.

A draft was forwarded to Grand Secretary Brewster, his receipt thereof is on file in this office.*

* Jan. 27th—I have to-day received the following, and also a postal order for \$34.50.—G. S. S.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE, GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS,

HOUSTON, January 22d, 1880.

R. W. A. T. C. PIERSON, G. S. S.,

M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota.

R. W. SIR AND BRO.:

In compliance with a resolution adopted on the recommendation of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, shall enclose Post Office Money Order for thirty-four 50-100 dollars, (\$34.50-100.)

The following is the action had by the Grand Lodge of Texas at its forty-fourth communication, viz.:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Texas:

"The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, to whom was referred the communication from R. W. Bro. A. T. C. Pierson, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, (see printed proceedings of 1879, pages 42 and 43,) would respectfully report that, while they appreciate the feelings which prompted the action of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, yet they deem it improper in this Grand Lodge to accept the reimbursement offered, and the committee would recommend the adoption of the following resolution, to-wit:

"Resolved, That the sum of thirty-four 50-100 dollars, (\$34.50-100,) forwarded to this Grand

DISPENSATIONS.

During the year, dispensations, by direction of the Grand Master, have been issued as follows :

April 28, 1879, to Little Falls Lodge, at Little Falls, Morrison county.

Nov. 20, 1879, to Crookston Lodge, at Crookston, Polk county.

Three dispensations granted in 1878 have been continued. Each of the five have made returns, paid their dues, and ask for charters.

FINANCIAL.

During the year I have received—

Charter fees of Cokato Lodge, No. 134.....	\$25 00
Charter fees of Nelson Lodge, No. 135.....	25 00
Charter fees of Walnut Lodge, No. 136.....	25 00
Jan. 15, 1879, For dues Caledonia Lodge, No. 20....	17 50
Jan. 15, 1879, For dues Pickwick Lodge, No. 110.....	9 50
Jan. 17, 1879, For dues Lansing Lodge, No. 72....	19 00
Jan. 18, 1879, For dues Union Lodge, No. 45.....	45 00
Jan. 26, 1879, For dues Blue Earth Valley Lodge, 27.....	33 50
Jan. 28, 1879, For dues Wapahasa Lodge, No. 14.....	36 25
Jan. 28, 1879, For dues Mankato Lodge, No. 12.....	67 00
Feb. 18, 1879, For dues Unity Lodge, No. 93.....	16 50
Mar. 21, 1879, For dues Concord Lodge, No. 47.....	12 00
Apr. 28, 1879, For dispensation Little Falls Lodge.....	20 00
Nov. 20, 1879, For dispensation Crookston Lodge.....	20 00
Total.....	\$371 25

"Lodge by the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, be returned to that Grand Lodge, with the assurance that we appreciate the offer to refund the amount expended by this Grand Lodge in paying appropriate honors to the memory of Grand Master Braden, deceased, but it cannot be accepted; as what was done, was done out of the fullness of our hearts for the brotherhood, and with no thought of reimbursement."

Fraternally submitted,

J. H. MCLEARY,

W. H. NICHOLS,

C. A. BROWN,

Committee.

I, Geo. H. Bringhurst, hereby certifies, that the above report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence was duly adopted, and the above is a true copy from the minutes of Grand Lodge at forty-fourth communication.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto affixed the impress of the Grand Lodge seal—date above given.

[SEAL.]

GEO. H. BRINGHURST,

Grand Secretary.

The total receipts of the last year, including dues, dispensations and charter fees, was \$4201.00, for which the Grand Treasurer's receipts are herewith.

RECORDS AND REGISTRY.

During the past year the records have been completed, and the Grand Lodge is in, for the first time, possession of the written minutes of its transactions.

The registry has been completed up to 1876, and can be completed before the next annual communication.

RETURNS.

The regulations of the Grand Lodge requires that the returns be sent to the Grand Secretary ten days before the annual communication, to enable him to make out the reports required of him by the Grand Constitutions.

It must be patent to every member of the Grand Lodge, that the Grand Secretary cannot comply with the requirements of the constitution when returns are delayed until the day of the annual meeting.

The masonic year, with us, ends December 31. The returns are to be made up to include the last stated meeting previous to December 31.

Two blanks are sent from the Grand Secretary's office each year, in ample time to enable the Secretaries to make out the returns and send them up in the time required.

In this connection, I must be permitted to record the marked improvement in the filling up of the returns received for the present session; there were but few names that could not be deciphered.

APPROPRIATIONS.

The lodges in the jurisdiction are multiplying so rapidly that an increased number of blanks for returns are required; there are none in the office. Other than the foregoing, I know of nothing that requires an additional appropriation beyond those usually made.

Fraternally submitted,

A. T. C. PIERSON,
Grand Secretary.

GRAND TREASURER'S REPORT.

J. H. THOMPSON, Grand Treasurer,

In account with the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota :

RECEIPTS.

1879.

To cash balance on hand, as per report of Jan. 14th,

1879..... \$ 782 68

Jan. 14, To cash received of A. T. C. Pierson, G. S. 2910 75

Jan. 15, To cash received of A. T. C. Pierson, G. S. 127 50

Jan. 15, To cash received of A. T. C. Pierson, G. S. 693 25

Jan. 16, To cash received of A. T. C. Pierson, G. S. 77 50

Dec. 31, To cash received of A. T. C. Pierson, G. S. 392 00

1880.

Jan. 13, To cash received—interest at 6 per cent. on certificate
deposit of \$500.00..... 30 00

\$5013 68

DISBURSEMENTS.

1879.

Jan. 16, By paid order No. 8—dues of Washington Lodge, No.
38, remitted..... \$ 15 50

Jan. 16, By paid order No. 9—Thos. Montgomery, Ass't Sec. .. 10 00

Jan. 16, By paid order No. 10—Bro. A. T. C. Pierson, appro-
priation for Foreign Correspondence..... 250 00Jan. 16, By paid order No. 11—Bro. E. W. Durant, G. S. M.,
expenses..... 300 00Jan. 16, By paid order No. 12—Bro. E. W. Durant, balance on
jewel..... 6 50

Jan. 16, By paid order No. 13—Bro. H. Burningham, G. S. Tyler, 25 00

Jan. 16, By paid order No. 14—reimburse G. S. L. of Texas,
expenses attending Bro. Braden's remains 34 75Jan. 16, By paid order No. 15—Miller & Rich, printing, as per
appropriation..... 32 00

Jan. 16, By paid order No. 16—postage, &c., as per appropriation 75 00

Jan. 16, By paid order No. 17—pay roll, session 1879..... 1180 08

Jan. 16, By paid order No. 18—for book case in G. S. office,
as per appropriation..... 15 00Mar. 13, By paid order No. 19—Miller & Rich, printing proceed-
ings, &c., for 1879..... 662 41Sep. 15, By paid order No. 20—Bro. A. T. C. Pierson, account
salary..... 325 00

Amount carried forward \$2931 24

Amount brought forward.....	\$2931 24
Dec. 31, By paid order No. 21—Bro. A. T. C. Pierson, balance of salary, \$175.00; balance of contingencies, \$25.00.	200 00
Dec. 31, By paid order No. 22—Bro. A. T. C. Pierson, as per appropriation of 1874, completing G. L. registry to 1873.....	250 00
Dec. 31, By paid order No. 23—rent of G. S. office, \$150.00; insurance G. L. property, \$46.00.....	196 00
1880.	
Jan. 13, Cash on hand to balance.....	1436 44
	\$5013 68

Fraternally submitted,

J. H. THOMPSON,

Grand Treasurer.

The reports of the Grand Secretary and the Grand Treasurer were referred to the Committee on Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer's Books.

WASHINGTON LODGE, NO. 38.

W. Bro. M. G. Peters made application on behalf of Washington Lodge, No. 38, for permission to remove the place of meeting of said lodge from Wasioja to Concord, and also for a duplicate charter; the charter of the lodge having been burned with the hall.

Referred to a special committee, consisting of Bros. G. B. Cooley, (11,) R. H. Gove, (21,) and L. L. Wheelock, (33.)

CORINTHIAN LODGE, NO. 67.

Bro. G. H. Davis (23) presented the following:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge dues of Corinthian Lodge, No. 67, be remitted, their lodge hall and furniture having been destroyed by fire.

Referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

ELECTION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

On motion of Bro. J. V. Brower, (23,) it was ordered that the

hour of 3 o'clock P. M., to-morrow, be fixed for the election of Grand Officers.

EXEMPLIFICATION OF WORK.

Bro. J. V. Brower (23) presented the following :

Resolved, That work in the third degree be exemplified before this Grand Lodge at 9:30 o'clock this evening, and that the M. . W. . G. . M. . designate such brothers as he may need to assist him in the work. .

Laid aside for the time being.

ORATION.

On motion of Bro. A. Marden, (98,) it was voted, that the address of the Grand Orator be the special order after calling on this evening.

The Grand Lodge was called off until 8 o'clock P. M.

EVENING SESSION.

Jan. 13th, 1879—8 o'clock P. M.

The Grand Lodge resumed labor, officers and members as before, and a very large number of visiting brethren.

ORATION.

The Grand Orator, Rev. Bro. G. H. Davis, (23,) then proceeded to read his address, after which, on motion of Bro. E. W. Durant, (1,) it was—

Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be tendered to Bro. Davis for his very able address; and that he is requested to furnish a copy thereof to be printed with the proceedings.

(For address, see appendix.)

EXEMPLIFICATION OF WORK.

The M. . W. . G. . M. . called up the resolution of Bro. J. V. Brower, (23,) and it was adopted.

Bro. W. D. Cornish, W. . M. . of Ancient Landmark Lodge, No. 5, announced that his lodge had a candidate ready for the third degree, and that he was in waiting; whereupon the M. . W. . G. . M. . placed the brethren in charge of the officers of Ancient Landmark Lodge, No. 5, for the purpose of exemplifying the third degree.

Labor was suspended in the third degree, and a lodge of Fellow Crafts opened for work and instruction.

The candidate was introduced and examined as to his proficiency in the Fellow Crafts degree, which proving satisfactory, the lodge was closed in the degree of Fellow Craft and labor resumed in the third degree.

The candidate was then introduced and raised to the third degree.

The M. . W. . G. . M. . resumed the East, and directed the Grand Secretary to note, that he, on behalf of the Grand Lodge, tendered his thanks to the officers and members of Ancient Landmark Lodge, No. 5, for the very creditable manner in which the work had been exemplified.

The Grand Lodge was then called off until 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

SECOND DAY.

January 14th, 1880.

At 9 o'clock A. M. the Grand Lodge resumed labor, officers and members as on previous day.

Prayer by the acting Grand Chaplain, Rev. Bro. W. H. Hall, (47.)

WASHINGTON LODGE, NO. 38.

The special committee presented the following report, which was adopted

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota :

Your special committee, appointed to inquire into the matter of moving and the issuing of a duplicate charter to Washington Lodge, No. 38, beg leave to report that they have had the matter under consideration and find the following facts :

That M. W. P. G. M. E. W. Durant, during the year 1878, while he was M. W. G. M. of this jurisdiction, gave written consent to the brethren of Washington Lodge, No. 38, at their request, to remove said lodge from the village of Wasioja to the village of Concord, in Dodge Co., Minnesota, and that said lodge was so moved pursuant to said authority.*

That your committee find, that at the annual communication of this Grand Lodge for 1879, the R. W. Grand Secretary was instructed by this Grand Lodge to issue a duplicate charter to Washington Lodge, No. 38, without fee. (See printed proceedings 1879, pages 55 and 56.)

Your committee deem no further action by this Grand Lodge necessary, except that the R. W. Grand Secretary carry out the instructions to him in the proceedings of 1879, and send said duplicate charter to Washington Lodge, No. 38, without fee.

Respectfully submitted,

GROVE B. COOLEY,
R. H. GOVE,
Committee.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE, NO. I.

The committee presented the following reports, which were adopted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota :

The undersigned, a majority of your Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the decisions of the M. W. Grand Master, made during the year, have had the same under consideration, and believe that said decisions are in accordance with the masonic law and usage of this Grand Jurisdiction, and therefore approve the same.

Respectfully submitted,

GROVE B. COOLEY,
C. W. NASH,
A. J. EDGERTON,
Committee.

DECISIONS.

I. *Question.*—Can the Master elect of a subordinate lodge, although an actual Past Master, be lawfully installed by proxy?

* NOTE.—Of which the Grand Secretary was not informed.—G. S.

Answer.—No. Installation by proxy is not authorized within this jurisdiction.

2. A brother receiving the degrees, or any of them, in a lodge other than the one that received and acted upon his petition, is not entitled to become a member of the lodge doing the work simply by signing the by-laws. He must first sign the by-laws of the lodge that elected him, and then, after being regularly dimitted, he may apply for admission to any lodge he wishes to join in the jurisdiction of which he is a resident. (G. L. Pro. 1874, p. 17.)

3. A lodge conferring the degrees at the request of the lodge which received and acted upon his petition, obtains no jurisdiction over M. M. so made; it remains with the lodge that elected him.

4. To constitute a brother a member of a lodge, except to be a charter member, he must, in addition to other requirements, sign the by-laws; until he does so he is non-affiliate.

5. Under the usages and regulations in this jurisdiction, only one ballot is authorized for all the degrees. Advancements to any degree may be stayed by objection properly taken, subject to the discretion of the W. M.

6. The applicant must reside within the jurisdiction of the lodge for the period of one year before such lodge can entertain and act upon his petition for the degrees. If rejected, the applicant may again present his petition after the expiration of six months.

7. Brothers who work lodges U. D. are liable to the lodges from which they hail for lodge dues.

8. The Grand Lodge is vested with power, to the exclusion of subordinate lodges, to restore to the rights and privileges of masonry, a brother who has been suspended indefinitely or expelled.

9. Subordinate lodges are not authorized to exempt M. M. from lodge dues, except Secretary, Chaplain and Tyler.

10. Brothers who petition for, and to whom a charter for a new lodge is granted, are thereby constituted members of the lodge, having all the powers and privileges of members made in the lodge, and who have signed the by-laws. They become members per force of the charter and the power granting it.

11. The loss of the third and fourth fingers of the right hand is not such a physical maiming as will debar a person otherwise qualified from receiving the degrees in masonry.

12. The loss of the thumb and two first fingers of the right hand is such physical maiming as will debar a person from receiving the degrees in masonry.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota :

Your Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom was referred that portion of the M. W. Grand Master's address relating to the recognition

of the so-called Grand Lodges of Cuba and New South Wales, beg leave to report:

That your committee fully concur with the views of M. W. Grand Master, expressed in relation to those said so-called Grand Bodies, and would therefore recommend that said so-called Grand Bodies be not recognized by this Grand Lodge at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

G. B. COOLEY,
C. W. NASH,
A. J. EDGERTON,
E. W. DURANT,
W. H. GRANT,
Committee.

OBITUARY.

The committee to which was referred that portion of the Grand Master's address relating to the death of Bro. Ingmundson presented the following report, which was concurred in:

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota:

Your committee, to whom was referred that portion of your M. W. Grand Master's address which referred to the death of our lamented brother R. W. Ingmund Ingmundson, District Deputy Grand Master, beg leave to submit the following report:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge fully approves the record of his noble worth made by M. W. H. R. Wells, Grand Master, in his address; and that we further record the fact, that in his death we have lost a faithful and efficient officer; the State, an honorable and upright citizen; and society, an ornament. He was young in years, yet ripe in honors and experience. Truly, for the loss of such a man we can but mourn; and

Resolved, That we devote to his memory a page of the records, which shall be suitably inscribed under the direction of the R. W. Grand Secretary, and which shall show his name, age, masonic rank, and his death. That for his afflicted family and friends we extend the warmest of fraternal sympathy. That to them be presented, by R. W. Grand Secretary, an engraved copy of these resolutions; and that any brother who may desire, has permission to transcribe these resolutions and make them public.

Fraternally submitted,

J. D. ALLEN,
W. T. WILKINS,
S. IVES,
Committee.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE, NO. 3,

Relative to the Grand Lodge of Dakota, presented the following report, which was adopted :

To the M. . W. . Grand Lodge of Minnesota :

Your Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom was referred, at the last session, the matter relating to the recognition, by this Grand Lodge, of the formation and organization of the Grand Lodge of Dakota Territory, and the relinquishment of jurisdiction by this Grand Body over Shilo Lodge, No. 105, at Fargo, and Bismarck Lodge, No. 120, at Bismarck, Dakota Territory; said lodges holding their charters from, and working under the jurisdiction of this M. . W. . Grand Lodge; and that further consideration of the case was reserved for report at this session; have had the same under careful consideration, and would respectfully and fraternally report, that since the last session of this Grand Body, your committee have been enabled to obtain the correspondence of the late and lamented M. . W. . Grand Master James C. Braden, on this subject, with the Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of Dakota Territory, and embrace the same, as a part of our report, for the consideration of this Grand Lodge, and information of the masonic world; and we feel confident, that a careful perusal of the same will justify and vindicate the action of M. . W. . Grand Master Braden, other Grand Officers, and this Grand Lodge, in relation to this matter, and will verify the remark made in the partial report made at last session, "that there is a different side to the question than that presented by the Grand Master of, and the committee on the Grand Master's address of the Grand Lodge of Dakota," and that the assertion of the M. . W. . Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Dakota Territory, in his address to said Grand Body in 1878, wherein he says, "these resolutions and all communications from this Grand Lodge, or from its Grand Master to the Grand Lodge officers of Minnesota, have, with the exception of the first letter from Grand Master Brown, been treated discourteously and with contempt. From the very first, the Grand Lodge of Minnesota has exhibited toward this Grand Lodge an unkind and uncharitable spirit—a spirit that is discreditable, if not disgraceful, to the great fraternity of which we are all members—a spirit that is contrary to all of its teachings." That this statement is not true, just, dignified, or in any way in harmony with kind and fraternal feelings, that should have actuated the Grand Master and Grand Lodge in the presentation and consideration of this matter.

Your committee herewith present the correspondence and statements of M. . W. . J. C. Braden :

The Grand Lodge of Dakota was organized in June, 1875.

Grand Master Griswold, in his address last year, says, that he had learned indirectly of the organization of the Grand Lodge of Dakota, but had no official information.

Past Grand Master Pierson, in his report on Foreign Correspondence last year, says, that he heard incidentally that the brethren in Dakota had organized a Grand Lodge.

I mention these facts merely to show that while other Grand Bodies were in possession of official information of the organization of the Grand Lodge of Dakota, the Grand Lodge of Minnesota had no such official information.

In February last I received the following letter from Grand Master Brown, of Dakota:

"OFFICE OF GRAND MASTER OF MASONS IN DAKOTA,
SIOUX FALLS, D. T., February 8th, 1876.

M. W. J. C. BRADEN,

G. M. of Minnesota.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER:

- (1.) I forward to you a copy of our proceedings of organization.
- (2.) There are at present three lodges working under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota—one at Bismarck, one at Fargo, and one at Pembina—all within the Territory of Dakota, and within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Dakota.
- (3.) Our Grand Secretary has written the above lodges, informing them of our organization and requesting their allegiance, but has received no reply.
- I quote the American law of the case, viz.: 'When a Grand Body is formed in a jurisdiction in which there is a subordinate body, the latter at once comes under the authority of the former, and should report to it, and obtain a warrant from it.'
- (4.) I think a letter from you to those lodges, advising them of the proper course for them to take, will result in our mutual good.
- (5.) I will issue dispensations (without fee) continuing them until the next meeting of the Grand Lodge, and subject to the action of the same.
- (6.) I shall be pleased to commission any brother whom you may name, as our Grand Representative, near your Grand Lodge.

Yours fraternally,

THOS. H. BROWN,
Grand Master "

Accompanying this letter was a copy of the proceedings of the convention, and of the first communication of the Grand Lodge of Dakota, and a copy of the circular of the Grand Secretary to the Grand Lodges of America.

This was the first official notice the Grand Lodge of Minnesota had received of the organization of the Grand Lodge of Dakota; yet, you will observe from the letter of Grand Master Brown, that the Grand Lodge of Dakota, through its proper officers, had officially informed the lodges in the Territory of Dakota, working under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, of the organization of the Grand Lodge of Dakota, and requesting a transfer of their allegiance, before the Grand Lodge of Minnesota had received official information of the organization of the Grand Lodge of Dakota.

To the letter of Grand Master Brown I returned the following answer:

"I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a copy of the proceedings of the convention which formed the Grand Lodge of Dakota, and of its first communication; also, a copy of the circular issued by your Grand Secretary to the Grand Lodges of America, bearing date August 2nd, 1875.

I have also the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of February 8th, in which you suggest the writing, by me, of a letter to the lodges in Dakota chartered by the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, advising them to transfer their allegiance from this to your Grand Lodge. With all due respect, I must decline to do so, for the following reasons:

First—The lodges in Dakota working under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota were not invited to participate in the convention which formed the Grand Lodge of Dakota.

By the published proceedings of the convention it appears, that in pursuance of a resolu-

tion adopted by Elk Point Lodge, No. 288, certain lodges, working under charters from the Grand Lodge of Iowa, met to form the Grand Lodge of Dakota, June 22, 1875; and the fact that only lodges chartered by the Grand Lodge of Iowa so met is stated in the proceedings, and in the circular of the Grand Secretary.

By the terms of your letter it appears you supposed, and it is fair to infer that the members of the convention supposed, that there were three lodges within the Territory of Dakota working under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota. No invitation was extended to any lodge working under the authority of this Grand Lodge to participate in the formation of the Grand Lodge of Dakota. That high honor was reserved for lodges working under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, and that Grand Lodge alone.

Second—That if they transfer their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of Dakota, they are not to be received upon the same terms that another lodge has been.

The report of the Committee on Credentials, made to the convention, states, "that Bro. J. L. Turner, of Mount Zion Lodge, Springfield, is here present; that we are credibly informed the M. W. Grand Lodge of Iowa, at its recent communication, granted a charter to Mount Zion Lodge, which charter, Bro. Turner informs us, is not yet received by the brethren of said lodge; hence, they have not elected delegates to this convention; but, in view of the fact that Bro. Turner is present, we respectfully recommend that he be invited to a seat in this convention, without authority, however, to represent Mount Zion Lodge," which recommendation was adopted.

The preamble to the constitution says that the representatives of five lodges ordained and established it, Mount Zion not included. Mount Zion Lodge, Springfield, was, therefore, not represented, and took no part in the convention which formed the Grand Lodge of Dakota. If it be now a chartered lodge of Dakota, it became such at a date subsequent to the formation of the Grand Lodge.

It is true, the Grand Secretary in his circular to the Grand Lodges says, that Mount Zion Lodge met with the other five lodges in convention, making six; but I have followed the proceedings of the convention and the preamble to the constitution.

At the first communication of the Grand Lodge, held July 21, 1875, Mount Zion Lodge, No. 346, chartered by the Grand Lodge of Iowa, was present; its representatives were admitted to seats in the Grand Lodge, and a charter, numbered six, forthwith issued to it, the five lodges that took part in the convention preceding it in numbers. In this way was a lodge, chartered by the Grand Lodge of Iowa, admitted into the Grand Lodge of Dakota after its formation.

The fifth paragraph of your letter, before referred to, says: "I will issue dispensations (without fee,) continuing them until the next meeting of the Grand Lodge, and subject to the action of the same;" that is to say, you expect me to advise the lodges in Dakota, working under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, to surrender their charters to you; you promising to issue to them dispensations—upon petition of course—until the next meeting of your Grand Lodge, when they will be "subject to the action of the same" to issue charters or not, to continue them under dispensation or not, at its will and pleasure.

For the reasons given, as already stated, with all due respect to you personally, and to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Dakota, I cannot advise our lodges in Dakota to take the course indicated by you.

Bearing date of April 10th, 1876, I received the following letter from Grand Master Brown:

"I quote from a letter just received from Bro. H. H. Blair, of Elk Point Lodge, in regard to the invitation extended to lodges in Northern Dakota:

'Your favor of the 30th ult. is received, and in reply would say, that I did notify (the same as the other lodges,) lodges at Fargo and Pembina, both before the convention held at Elk Point and afterwards. We were not aware at that time that there was any lodge at Bismarck.'

I have not the time at present to reply to yours of the 23th ult. I hope, after you have read the above, you will have a better opinion of, and a more fraternal feeling for, the Grand Lodge of Dakota than is manifested in your letter."

The charter of the Lodge at Pembina had been revoked. Was it ever issued? Fargo was the only lodge that could have received an invitation. I am informed by the Worshipful Master of Shilo Lodge, at Fargo, that no invitation to participate in the convention which formed the Grand Lodge of Dakota was ever received by this lodge, although, since its formation, invitations have been received to unite with it. The statement of Bro. Blair—present Grand Master of Dakota—is conclusive that an invitation was sent—by mail I presume—but it never was received.

The proceedings of the convention do not show that any lodge not participating in it was invited to do so.

Bearing date of April 19, 1876, I received the following letter from Grand Master Brown :

"In my letter to you, of February 8th, I said, in regard to the lodges in Dakota working under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, 'I will issue dispensations (without fee,) continuing them until the next meeting of the Grand Lodge, and subject to the action of the same.' On further investigation and inquiry, I am satisfied that I was in error in proposing the above course; that it would not extend to them all the rights to which they are entitled, and which I am anxious, as far as in my power, to accord them.

I will, on receipt of their charters, have them properly endorsed and reissued to them without delay, and treat them in every respect the same as the lodges who assisted in the formation of the Grand Lodge of Dakota have been treated.

Hoping that you will aid us in the proper and harmonious adjustment of this matter, I am, &c."

This ends the correspondence with Grand Master Brown.

So long as I rested under the charge made in the second letter of Grand Master Brown, of holding a bad opinion of, and manifesting a want of fraternal feeling for the Grand Lodge of Dakota, which I emphatically deny, there could be no further correspondence on my part.

In May last, Grand Secretary Pierson and myself visited the lodges at Bismarck and Fargo, the only lodges in the Territory of Dakota working under the authority of this Grand Lodge. The brethren are unanimous in their desire to continue their relations with the Grand Lodge of Minnesota.

The Grand Lodge of Dakota, at its second annual communication, adopted the following preamble and resolutions, of which I received a duly certified copy :

"WHEREAS, At the time of the organization of this Grand Lodge, June 21, 1875, there were two lodges within this territory, working under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, who were invited to meet in convention with the lodges organized and working under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, for the purpose of organizing a Grand Lodge within the Territory of Dakota; and

WHEREAS, The lodges above referred to were not present, either at the organizing or constituting of the Grand Lodge, nor any reply made to the invitations sent; and

WHEREAS, The Grand Lodge of Minnesota has continued to exercise jurisdiction within this territory since the organization of the Grand Lodge, although officially notified thereof, and the assurance being given by our M. W. Grand Master to the M. W. Grand Master of Minnesota, 'that upon receipt of their charters (those of the lodges above referred to,) he would have them properly endorsed and re-issued to them without delay, and treat them in every respect the same as the lodges which assisted in the formation of the Grand Lodge of Dakota have been treated; ' and

WHEREAS, All the invitations and requests of this Grand Lodge have been received by the lodges above referred to, and by the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, without respect to the rights and dignity of this Grand Lodge; and

WHEREAS, It has been abundantly demonstrated in the past, that two Grand Lodges cannot harmoniously exercise authority within the same jurisdiction;

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota has been infringing upon the rights and authority of this Grand Lodge; and that although we cannot undo what has already been done, we protest against the further exercise

of authority on the part of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota within our jurisdiction, as the exercise of such authority is, in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, unlawful, without precedent, and subversive of the peace and harmony which should exist between all masonic lodges; that the Grand Master of this Grand Lodge be requested to again open a correspondence with the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota in regard to this matter.

Resolved, That a copy of this preamble and resolution, properly endorsed by our Grand Secretary, under the seal of this Grand Lodge, be forwarded to the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota."

There is one error in the preamble—both lodges were not invited. The letter of Bro. Blair—present Grand Master—to G. M. Brown, states, that no invitation was sent to the lodge at Bismarck, and the reason why is given.

Brethren, all the facts in my possession are now before you.

From the foregoing history of the establishing of masonry in the Territory of Dakota, it is clear that there were two lodges, to-wit: Shilo Lodge, No. 105, and Bismarck Lodge, No. 120, in said territory, that were working under authority from this Grand Lodge a long time prior to the formation of the Grand Lodge of Dakota; and your committee are lead to the conclusion that the relation of said lodges to this Grand Lodge, from which they derived their origin, cannot be compelled by the Grand Lodge of Dakota, to relinquish their relation to this Grand Lodge, unless it be voluntary.

That no one lodge, or any number of lodges, can coerce any other lodge or lodges that had an existence before the formation of the new Grand Lodge, to join them in the formation of a Grand Lodge, without their voluntary consent. Each subordinate lodge is independent of any other lodge, only responsible to the Grand Lodge that gave its charter; and the right by which all the lodges can be governed, is when they come together in convention and consent to come under one common constitution, which was the case when the Grand Lodge of Minnesota was organized, and its constitution promulgated and adopted.

The true statement and correspondence was not presented to this Grand Lodge by M. W. J. C. Braden, for good and satisfactory reasons which he has given. As a matter of fact, it may be stated, that the M. W. Grand Master of this Grand Lodge granted a dispensation, in 1863, to Northern Light Lodge U. D., at Pembina, on the extreme northern border of said territory. This lodge had an existence for some months, but was never chartered; but the dispensation was removed and established at Fort Garry, British America, and was subsequently chartered by this Grand Lodge. There was also a dispensation granted, in January, 1871, to Yellow Stone Lodge, at Fort Buford in said territory, and was chartered in January, 1872; charter was subsequently surrendered. Dispensation was issued to Shilo Lodge, at Fargo, November, 1872, and chartered January 14, 1874, and shortly thereafter constituted. The lodge at Bismarck was granted letters of dispensation on the latter part of 1873, or early part of 1874, and charter granted in January, 1877, constituted in May of the same year.

Your committee mention these facts to show that this Grand Lodge, years ago, entertained a true fraternal spirit towards the brethren of Dakota,

then on the extreme frontier, and contributed what it could to the establishing of lodges, and the dissemination of masonry in that territory, and immediately contiguous to this Grand Lodge, years before there was a Grand Lodge in Dakota.

The claim of the Grand Lodge of Dakota, that this Grand Lodge has, at any time, or in any way, infringed upon their territory, is not, in the least, sustained by the facts and history of the case, and we expressly disclaim such intention. This Grand Lodge has not granted dispensation to a lodge, or given encouragement to any proceeding, except to protect the rights of the lodges chartered by us—nothing more than a faithful parent should do to protect its own household. It is clearly evident that, from the beginning, the Grand Lodge of Dakota have been on the driving and coercive order, and this does not always do, especially in a voluntary order like masonry.

For these reason we protest against the action of the Grand Lodge of Dakota as uncalled for and unfraternal, and not in harmony with the true spirit of masonry, "which is the bond of peace and the perfection of every virtue."

In consideration of the foregoing, your committee offer the following resolutions for adoption:

Resolved, That any masonic body holding authority from this Grand Lodge within Dakota Territory, so long as it shall desire to continue its connection with this, its paternal Grand Lodge, be permitted to do so, and that this M. W. Grand Lodge will defend and maintain its rights, and exercise authority over it until such time, as by its own free will and accord, it shall desire to sever connection with us.

Resolved, That we approve of the action of the M. W. Grand Master, H. R. Wells, respecting Shilo Lodge, 105, Fargo, and fraternally accord to said lodge affiliation with the Grand Lodge of Dakota, as desired in the petition to the Grand Master, as expressed in the resolution of this Grand Body in 1879.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

C. W. NASH,
G. B. COOLEY,
E. W. DURANT,
A. J. EDGERTON,
W. H. GRANT,
Committee.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

P. G. M. E. W. Durant, presiding, the following brethren presented credentials:

M.: W.: Henry R. Well, as the Representative of the Grand Lodge of Iowa.

R.: W.: C. H. Benton, the Grand Lodge of Arkansas; and

P.: G.: M.: C. W. Nash, of the Grand Lodge of Michigan, near the Grand Lodge of Minnesota. Each of the brethren were received with the honors befitting their appointment.

GRAND LODGE FUNDS.

The special committee, to which that portion of the Grand Master's address relative to the management of the Grand Lodge Funds was referred, presented the following report, which was adopted:

To the M.: W.: Grand Lodge of Minnesota:

Your committee, to whom was referred that portion of the M.: W.: Grand Master's address relating to the Grand Lodge Funds, beg leave to report:

That, in the opinion of the committee, the management of the permanent funds of this Grand Lodge is fully and properly vested in the Board of Trustees, named in Sec. 85 of our General Regulations, who are fully empowered and directed in the matter by that and the following section:

That until such time as that board find what, in their opinion, is a safe and profitable investment, the Grand Lodge is amply secured against loss by the bonds of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, required by resolution of this Grand Lodge, adopted in 1876, and found on page 44 of the printed proceedings of that year; and that, in the opinion of your committee, the resolution of 1866 referred to was not intended as a permanent direction to be followed by the Grand Treasurer.

Your committee would therefore offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That the regulation of the Grand Lodge contained in the resolution of 1866, instructing the Grand Treasurer to invest the surplus funds of the Grand Lodge in 7-30 U. S. Government Bonds, be, and the same is, hereby repealed.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted,

J. H. THOMPSON,

S. E. ADAMS,

C. H. BENTON,

Committee.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE NO. 4.

The committee presented the following report relative to dual

membership, which, after a somewhat lengthy discussion, was adopted, and also the resolution appended thereto :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota :

Your Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom was referred that portion of the M. W. Grand Master's address relating to dual membership, have had the same under consideration, and would respectfully and fraternally report :

Your committee fully agree with the Grand Master that the question of dual membership is indeed a vexed question, it having been complicated by the action of this Grand Body from time to time as it has been brought before them. After a very careful consideration of this subject in all its bearings, as relates to masonry in this jurisdiction, and after a full and careful review of the decisions and resolutions of this Grand Lodge relative thereto, would respectfully report as follows :

That while your committee recognize the complications arising from dual membership, we are also aware of this fact, that dual membership having been sanctioned and allowed heretofore in this Grand Jurisdiction, many of our brethren, under such sanction, have become members of two or more lodges. In many instances such memberships were formed from a reluctance to sever their membership with their home lodge while contemplating a removal to and within the jurisdiction of another lodge.

This would seem to be the governing reasons actuating masons in forming memberships with two or more lodges. Taking this view of the subject, we recommend that where dual membership already exist in lodges in this jurisdiction the brethren may continue such relations with the lodges with whom they hold such relations; and would also recommend that a resolution be at this time adopted by this Grand Body forbidding, in the future, dual membership.

Respectfully submitted,

A. J. EDGERTON,

E. W. DURANT,

C. W. NASH,

G. B. COOLEY,

W. H. GRANT,

Committee.

Resolved, That where members of the masonic fraternity in this jurisdiction have already acquired membership in two or more lodges, that this Grand Lodge will recognize such dual membership, but the forming of dual membership in the future is hereby prohibited.

GRAND SECRETARY AND TREASURER'S BOOKS.

The committee presented the following report, which was adopted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota :

The undersigned, your committee, have examined the books of the Secretary and Treasurer and find the records written up to date, for the first time in 20 years. The Grand Lodge Register has been brought up to 1876.

Up to the present time the following lodges have not paid dues, as follows :

- * Doric, No. 87—Due, \$21.50.
- * Antiquity, No. 91—Due, \$21.00.
- Unity, No. 93—Due, \$14.00.
- * Grand Meadow, No. 121—Due, \$12.00.
- * Anoka, No. 30—Due, \$52.50, for 1878.
- * Sakatah, No. 32—Due, \$15.50.

No returns have been received from the following lodges :

- Minneiska, No. 74.
- Mystic Circle, No. 78.
- * Adoniram, No. 107.
- Delta, No. 119.
- * Bismarck, No. 120.

Amount of dues received at this date.....	\$4009 50
Amount received for dues from lodges U. W. D.....	90 00
Amount received for charters.....	75 00

Total receipts for the year to date.....\$4174 50

All of which have been paid to the Grand Treasurer.

Amount of funds in Treasurer's hands.....\$5610 94

The work of the committee could be materially lessened if the returns and dues of lodges were sent in, *as they should be*, at least 10 days previous to the opening of the Grand Lodge.

The committee take pleasure in stating that they find the books and accounts in a very satisfactory condition.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

H. R. DENNY,
FRANK CHASE,
W. W. BRADEN,
Committee.

The Grand Lodge was then called off until 3 o'clock P. M.

* NOTE.—Received since the close of the session.—G. W. S.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Wednesday, Jan. 14th—3 o'clock P. M.

The Grand Lodge resumed labor, P. G. M. G. B. Cooley presiding. Officers and members as at previous session.

ELECTION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

The hour fixed for the election of Grand Officers having arrived, Bros. W. H. Grant, (3,) W. A. Miller, (4,) C. H. Smith, (97,) and H. R. Denny (111) were appointed tellers.

GRAND MASTER.

The tellers announced the re-election of M. W. Henry R. Wells (36) as Grand Master.

P. G. M. A. T. C. Pierson, (5,) C. W. Nash, (35,) and E. W. Durant (1) were appointed a committee to conduct the M. W. G. M. elect into the Grand Lodge.

DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.

Pending the counting of the ballots for Deputy Grand Master, reports were received from the Committee on Returns as follows, which was concurred in :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota :

Your Committee on Returns of Lodges would respectfully report that they have examined the returns and find them correct, with the following exceptions :

Cannon River, No. 52—Amount due, \$1.00.

Henderson, No. 80—Amount due, \$0.50.

LaFayette, No. 116—Amount due, \$1.00.

Huram Abi, No. 83—Overpaid, \$0.50.

High Forest, No. 85—Overpaid, \$1.00.

Josephus, No. 128—Overpaid, \$0.50.

King Solomon, No. 44—Dues paid—no returns received.

Mystic Circle, No. 78—No returns.

Minneiska, No. 74—No returns.

Adoniram, No. 107—No returns.

Delta, No. 119—No returns.

Bismarck, No. 120—No returns.

We suggest that more promptness in forwarding the returns to the Grand Secretary will greatly facilitate the labors of the committee.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

O. WHITMAN,
A. J. SNURE,
GEO. W. SEYMOUR,
D. W. HALL,
C. W. WILKINSON,
Committee.

RESIDUE OF ADDRESS.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota :

Your committee, to whom was referred the so-called "residue" of the M. W. Grand Master's address, have examined the same, and offer the following report :

They heartily concur in the observations of the M. W. Grand Master concerning the necessity for the adoption of some system which shall insure a greater uniformity in the work of the subordinate lodges, and a more careful and business-like method of keeping their various records, and of conducting their financial operations. The solution of the problem involved, however, presents grave difficulties.

Your committee have decided to suggest, without recommendation, three plans by which the evil existing may be either wholly or in part obviated.

They are convinced that the only efficient and satisfactory plan is the appointment of a Grand Lecturer. This would involve the expenditure of not less than from \$2,000 to \$2,500 per annum for salary and expenses.

A far less efficient and satisfactory plan would be the continuance of the present system of District Deputies, with duties enlarged as indicated above. Should this second plan be adopted, your committee would suggest that those accepting appointments as deputies be held responsible for the faithful performance of their duties, and that the Grand Lodge pay all necessary expenses incurred in the discharge of the functions of such office.

A third plan would be the continuance of the present deputy system, the duties of the office remaining the same as at present. Your committee are of the opinion that should this plan be adopted, deputies should be enjoined to faithfully attend to their prescribed duties, and that the Grand Lodge should also pay all their necessary expenses while performing those duties.

In presenting these plans your committee make no recommendation that

either be adopted. They merely place the same before the Grand Lodge for such action as they, in their wisdom, may see fit to adopt.

In regard to that portion of the address of the M. W. Grand Master relating to the tendency on the part of subordinate lodges to contract indebtedness beyond their reasonable ability to pay, your committee do not hesitate to say the question is one of commercial honesty and integrity, and should be made matter of masonic discipline; and they would recommend the adoption of a resolution by the Grand Lodge, forbidding any such action on the part of subordinate lodges under the penalty of a forfeiture of charter, or such other discipline as the Grand Lodge, in their wisdom, shall see fit to impose under the circumstances as they may arise.

All of which is most respectfully submitted,

G. H. DAVIS,
O. H. PAGE,
R. H. GOVE,
Committee.

Which was concurred in.

COMMITTEE ON GRIEVANCES, NO. I.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota:

The undersigned Committee on Appeals and Grievances have had under consideration the petition of Bro. J. M. Greenman and thirteen other brethren of Fidelity Lodge, No. 39, asking for the restoration to the rights and privileges of masonry of Bro. R. J. Cochran, formerly a member of said lodge and now under sentence of suspension for unmasonic conduct.

Your committee have nothing before them but the petition. They have no information as to whether the suspension was made definite or indefinite; and without stopping to enquire as to these or like matters, your committee are of the opinion that in order to entitle a petition for this purpose to a hearing in this Grand Lodge, it should come from the brother himself; otherwise, we can have no proper means of knowing that he desires to be restored.

Your committee therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution, viz.:

Resolved, That the petition of Bro. J. M. Greenman and others for the restoration of Bro. R. J. Cochran be, and the same is hereby dismissed.

JOHN H. BROWN,
R. H. GOVE,
W. D. CORNISH,
C. G. HALGREN,
Committee.

Concurred in.

R. W. C. H. Benton (4) was re-elected Deputy Grand Master.

SENIOR GRAND WARDEN.

Pending the counting of the ballots for Senior Grand Warden, Bro. A. J. Edgerton (11) offered the following

AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION :

Resolved, That Sec. 26 of Title Fourth of our Grand Lodge Constitution be amended by adding thereto the following proviso :

Provided, That no Master Mason shall become a member of more than one lodge within this jurisdiction at the same time.

And that such amendment be submitted to the subordinate lodges in this jurisdiction for their approval.

Which was unanimously adopted, ordered to be printed in the proceedings, and comes up for final action at the next Grand Annual Communication.

COMMITTEE ON LODGES U. D.

presented the following, which was adopted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota :

Your Committee on Work of Lodges U. D. would respectfully report, that we have carefully examined the records and returns of the following lodges U. D., viz. :

Fidelity, at Verndale.

Orion, at Atwater.

Little Falls, at Little Falls.

Crookston, at Crookston.

And finding their work good, and such as we can approve, we recommend that, upon a compliance with the Constitution of the Grand Lodge in such cases provided, charters be granted to each of said lodges, viz. :

Fidelity, at Verndale.

Orion, at Atwater.

Little Falls, at Little Falls.

Crookston, at Crookston.

But we would recommend that as we have one lodge chartered as Fidelity Lodge, No. 39, the name of Fidelity U. . D. . be changed to Verndale Lodge. We have also carefully examined the records and returns of Messiah Lodge U. . D. ., at Appleton, Minn., and find that a dispensation was granted this lodge in January, 1878; that no records or returns whatever were made to this Grand Lodge at its last session, and their dispensation was therefore continued; that the records and returns for the year 1879 are in a most incomplete and unsatisfactory condition, and disclose either ignorance on the part of the officers of the lodge, or carelessness on the part of the Secretary in keeping the records. For instance, we find that applicants for the degrees of masonry have been balloted for at special communications, and other business. That at regular communications the lodge has been opened in the first or second degree and business transacted. There have also been other slight irregularities, but the lodge seems to be in a very flourishing condition. We therefore report the case of Messiah Lodge U. . D. . and these facts to the Grand Lodge without recommendation, save and except, that should this M. . W. . Grand Lodge see fit to grant them a charter, we would suggest a change of the name of the lodge, as it does not seem to us that the name "Messiah" is a proper name for a lodge.

Your committee would also suggest that whenever a new lodge is organized, or a dispensation granted, the officer constituting the lodge, or the Grand Secretary, should furnish to said lodge proper instructions in regard to keeping the records of the lodge.

In regard to the matter of the application of certain persons, claiming to be masons, for a dispensation to form a new lodge in St. Paul, we most heartily endorse and approve the action of your M. . W. . Grand Master in regard to the same, in refusing to grant the prayer of the petitioners, for the reasons set forth in his address.

The application for the establishment of a lodge at Currie, Murray county, Minn., was also referred to your committee. Upon an examination of the petition and the accompanying papers we find, that in said petition a dispensation only is prayed for, while in an accompanying letter from Bro. Neil Currie, who is named in said petition as their first Master, the request is made that a charter be granted at once, at this session of the Grand Lodge.

Upon a careful examination of the subject we can find no good reason why this application should take any other than the usual course, and we

do find what seems to us to be good reasons why a charter should not be granted at this time.

All applications of this kind should be made or referred to the M. W. Grand Master and not to the Grand Lodge, because if the application was made directly to the Grand Lodge—

1st. The business of the Grand Lodge would be greatly increased, its sessions prolonged, and its expenses greatly augmented.

2nd. In the short time given at our sessions for the consideration of matters of this character, the Grand Lodge might not be able to become sufficiently informed in regard to surrounding circumstances, such as the proposed location with reference to the location and jurisdiction of neighboring lodges, the character of the applicants, and the desirability and advisability of establishing such lodge.

3rd. That the interests of the craft is seldom promoted by too hasty action; a probation period, as it were, would therefore seem advisable to try the work of the craftsmen, to ascertain if it be good and acceptable.

4th. If we grant a charter in this case a bad precedent will be established.

We therefore recommend that this application be referred to the M. W. Grand Master.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

E. J. DAVENPORT,
O. H. PAGE,
J. H. MORFORD,
Committee.

Bro. G. H. Davis (23) was elected Senior Grand Warden.

JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN.

Pending the counting of the ballots for Junior Grand Warden, the

SPECIAL COMMITTEE, LODGE CHARITY REIMBURSEMENT

reported the following, which was adopted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota :

The undersigned, your committee, have considered the recommendations of the M. W. Grand Master as to the practice of calling upon the lodge of which a sojourning brother in want is a member, for remuneration and compensation for relief extended.

We coincide with the views of the Grand Master, and respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolution, viz. :

Resolved, That in all cases where a sojourning brother in want receives relief, the lodge or brother extending such relief is prohibited from rendering an account or request for payment of same to the lodge of which such distressed brother may be a member, unless requested by such lodge.

Respectfully submitted,

E. J. DAVENPORT,
J. V. BROWER,
R. W. JACKLIN,
Committee.

GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE, NO. 1,

presented the following reports :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota :

The undersigned Committee on Appeals and Grievances have had under consideration the matters of difference existing between Fraternal Lodge, No. 92, at Princeton, and Bro. Silas L. Staples, late Secretary thereof, and beg leave to report :

* * * * *

Your committee are of the opinion that when a brother voluntarily withdraws from his lodge, and becomes non-affiliated, he has thereafter no such interest in the proceedings of such lodge as will enable him to either prefer or prosecute, in this Grand Lodge, charges against such lodge for irregularity or misconduct, unless such alleged irregularity or misconduct relates to or affects his rights or himself personally.

Your committee therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution, viz. :

Resolved, That the matters presented to this Grand Lodge by Bro. Silas L. Staples, set forth in the foregoing report, be, and the same are, hereby dismissed.

Fraternally submitted,

JOHN H. BROWN,
R. H. GOVE,
W. D. CORNISH,
C. G. HALGREN,
Committee.

Which was concurred in.

GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE, NO. 2.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota :

The undersigned Committee on Appeals and Grievances have had under consideration the matter of the trial and expulsion of Bro. Barnabus Welton, by Concord Lodge, No. 47, and beg leave to report :

That on the 28th of June, A. D. 1879, charges were preferred against Bro. Barnabus Welton by two brothers of said lodge, whereby he was accused of the crime of incest. Upon the 26th of July following, the brother so accused was tried, convicted and expelled from all the rights and privileges of masonry, and the record is now certified up to this Grand Lodge for affirmance.

The record discloses some minor errors and irregularities, but, waiving these for the time being, your committee feel compelled to report that there is no evidence in this case upon which such a conviction can be based, or upon which it can stand for a moment. All the testimony reported, (and it purports to be all that was taken,) relating to the charges made, is hearsay of the purest and simplest kind.

Your committee therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution, viz. :

Resolved, That the action of Concord Lodge, No. 47, in the matter set forth in the foregoing report be, and the same is, hereby, in all things, reversed.

Fraternally submitted,

JOHN H. BROWN,
W. D. CORNISH,
R. H. GOVE,
C. G. HALGREN,
Committee.

Concurred in.

RE-CONSIDERED.

On motion of Bro. A. J. Edgerton, (11,) that part of the report of the Committee on Lodges U. W. D. refusing to grant a charter for a new lodge at Appleton, was re-considered and re-committed to the committee.

Bro. J. H. Brown (104) was elected Junior Grand Warden.

Bro. J. H. Thompson (19) was re-elected Grand Treasurer.

Bro. A. T. C. Pierson (5) re-elected Grand Secretary.

PAY ROLL.

The Committee on Pay Roll presented the following report, which was adopted:

PAY ROLL.

NO.	GRAND OFFICERS.	MILEAGE. PER DIEM.		TOTAL.	TO WHOM PAID.
	H. R. Wells, G. M.	\$8 30	\$4 00	\$12 30	H. R. Wells.
	C. H. Benton, D. G. M.	50	4 00	4 50	C. H. Benton.
	C. N. Daniel, S. G. W.	11 28	4 00	15 28	C. N. Daniels.
	J. H. Thompson, G. T.	50	4 00	4 50	J. H. Thompson.
	A. T. C. Pierson, G. S.		4 00	4 00	A. T. C. Pierson.
	G. H. Davis, G. O.	3 60	4 00	7 60	G. H. Davis.
	E. E. Corliss, G. S. D.	8 90	4 00	12 90	E. E. Corliss.
	Wm. Stafford, G. J. D.	4 90	4 00	8 90	Wm. Stafford.
	John A. Johnson, G. P.	1 20	4 00	5 20	J. A. Johnson.
	J. F. Reppy, G. J. S.	5 70	4 00	9 70	J. F. Reppy.
	PAST GRAND OFFICERS.				
	C. W. Nash, P. G. M.	50	4 00	4 50	C. W. Nash.
	G. B. Cooley, P. G. M.	50	4 00	4 50	G. B. Cooley.
	E. W. Durant, P. G. M.	1 20	4 00	5 20	E. W. Durant.
	A. Goodrich, P. D. G. M.		4 00	4 00	A. Goodrich.
	S. E. Adams, P. G. S. W.	3 65	4 00	7 65	S. E. Adams.
	Wm. Lee, P. G. J. W.	1 00	4 00	5 00	Wm. Lee.
	A. C. Smith, P. G. J. W.	4 65	4 00	8 65	A. C. Smith.
	Fred. Joss, P. G. J. W.	1 00	4 00	5 00	Fred. Joss.
	J. W. Morford, P. G. J. W.	3 25	4 00	7 25	J. W. Morford.
	E. P. Barnum, P. G. J. W.	5 60	4 00	9 60	E. P. Barnum.
	A. J. Edgerton, P. G. J. W.	4 45	4 00	8 45	A. J. Edgerton.
	C. O. Ball, P. G. J. W.	1 00	4 00	5 00	C. O. Ball.
	REPRESENTATIVES.				
1	St. Johns.	1 60	4 00	5 60	W. F. Gorrie.
2	Catawba.	50	4 00	4 50	W. E. Johnson.
3	St. Paul.		4 00	4 00	W. H. Grant.
4	Hennepin.	50	4 00	4 50	W. A. Miller.
5	Ancient Landmark.		4 00	4 00	W. D. Cornish.
7	Dakota.	1 00	4 00	5 00	Irving Todd.
8	Red Wing.	1 90	4 00	5 90	L. A. Hancock.
9	Faribault.	2 70	4 00	6 70	Geo. M. Andrews.
11	Mantorville.	5 45	4 00	9 45	A. La Due.
12	Mankato.	5 75	4 00	9 75	Chas. H. Parsons.
14	Wapabasa.				
16	Monticello.	3 65	4 00	7 65	Henry Kerr.
17	Hokah.	7 05	4 00	11 05	A. J. Snure.
18	Winona.	5 00	4 00	9 00	T. A. Richardson.
19	Minneapolis.	50	4 00	4 50	J. M. Williams.
20	Caledonia.	9 05	4 00	13 05	C. A. Coe.
21	Rochester.	9 10	4 00	13 10	R. H. Gove.
22	Pleasant Grove.	9 15	4 00	13 15	O. H. Page.
23	North Star.	3 50	4 00	7 50	J. V. Brower.
24	Wilton.	4 00	4 00	8 00	H. C. Woodbury.
26	Western Star.	5 70	4 00	9 70	C. M. Wilkinson.
27	Blue Earth Valley.	9 25	4 00	12 25	T. S. Rice.
28	Clearwater.	3 50	4 00	7 50	G. P. Fish.
29	Morning Star.	5 00	4 00	9 00	J. C. Day.
30	Anoka.	1 30	4 00	5 30	A. A. Hilton.
31	King Hiram.	2 35	4 00	6 35	Rufus P. Wells.
32	Sakata.	3 15	4 00	7 15	R. W. Jacklin.
33	Star in the East.	3 25	4 00	7 25	Lewis L. Wheelock.
34	Mount Moriah.	4 40	4 00	8 40	T. E. Chapman.
35	Preston.	1 00	4 00	5 00	J. E. Finch.
36	Mystic Tie.	8 30	4 00	12 30	G. W. Hard.
37	Washington.	5 95	4 00	9 95	M. A. Robinson.
38	Fidelity.	4 90	4 00	8 90	M. G. Peters.
39	Carnelian.	5 05	4 00	9 05	W. T. Wilkins.
40		2 75	4 00	6 75	G. W. T. Wright.

PAY ROLL.—(Continued.)

NO.	REPRESENTATIVES.	MILEAGE.	PER DIEM.	TOTAL.	TO WHOM PAID.
41	Herman.....	\$5 45	\$4 00	9 45	C. B. Anderson.
42	Hope.....	2 50	4 00	6 50	D. Tupper.
43	Harmony.....	3 00	4 00	7 00	Isaac C. Slade.
44	King Solomon.....	1 35	4 00	5 35	Jos. Newton.
45	Union.....	3 80	4 00	7 80	E. P. Rutan.
46	Evergreen.....	7 25	4 00	11 25	S. L. Draper.
47	Concord.....	6 00	4 00	10 00	W. H. Hall.
48	Social.....	1 85	4 00	5 85	F. A. Noble.
49	Rising Sun.....	5 75	4 00	9 75	Robert Mars.
50	Watertown.....	2 15	4 00	6 15	C. G. Halgren.
51	Acacia.....	1 00	4 00	5 00	A. H. Steen.
52	Cannon River.....	3 55	4 00	7 55	George Molen.
54	Nicollet.....	4 50	4 00	8 50	E. S. Pettijohn.
55	Zion.....	3 45	4 00	7 45	Geo. W. Seymour.
56	Meriden.....	6 80	4 00	10 80	Geo. Andrus.
57	Blue Earth City.....	6 30	4 00	10 30	N. R. Booth.
58	Spring Valley.....	4 70	4 00	8 70	C. H. Stinchfield.
59	Temple.....	5 00	4 00	9 00	S. Kells.
60	Star in the West.....	3 75	4 00	7 75	C. S. Andrews.
61	Ashlar.....	3 15	4 00	7 15	J. P. Harvey.
62	Star.....	0 95	4 00	10 95	A. Smith.
63	Illustrious.....	8 95	4 00	12 95	S. W. Bird.
64	Chain Lake.....	1 00	4 00	5 00	J. C. Higgins.
65	Golden Rule.....	6 60	4 00	10 60	J. T. Furber.
66	Madelia.....	1 25	4 00	5 25	J. M. D. Craft.
67	Corinthian.....	4 45	4 00	8 45	E. H. Baty.
69	Mystic Star.....	4 00	4 00	8 00	P. D. Vaughn.
71	Paynesville.....	6 20	4 00	10 20	Jno. D. Allen.
72	Lansing.....	6 40	4 00	10 40	L. Cook.
73	Brownsville.....	3 00	4 00	7 00	R. L. McCormick.
75	Eureka.....	8 10	4 00	12 10	J. R. Carey.
76	Joppa.....	3 50	4 00	7 50	J. R. Kirby.
77	Tuscan.....	6 85	4 00	10 85	Geo. H. Robard.
79	Palestine.....	2 55	4 00	6 55	C. W. Rickerson.
80	Henderson.....	4 45	4 00	8 45	H. Hatch.
81	Constellation.....	6 20	4 00	10 20	M. Emery.
82	Howard.....	5 25	4 00	9 25	G. E. Johnson.
83	Hiram Abi.....	4 65	4 00	8 65	J. Q. A. Braden.
84	Orient.....	4 80	4 00	8 80	Alex. Fiddes.
85	High Forest.....	11 80	4 00	15 80	Joseph L. Case.
86	Tyrian.....	2 10	4 00	6 10	J. M. Thompson.
88	Golden Fleece.....	7 25	4 00	11 25	Chas. J. Wheaton.
89	Good Faith.....	8 00	4 00	12 00	J. S. Aldritt.
90	Good Faith.....	10 70	4 00	14 70	C. H. Smith.
91	Paternal.....	8 90	4 00	12 90	A. Marden.
92	Keystone.....	10 70	4 00	14 70	James Compton.
93	Sherburne.....	7 55	4 00	11 55	A. C. Robinson.
94	Libanus.....	6 50	4 00	10 50	G. W. Hall.
95	Prudence.....	4 85	4 00	8 85	A. J. Murphy.
96	Charity.....	11 00	4 00	15 00	F. R. Bunker.
97	Corner Stone.....	4 45	4 00	8 45	F. C. Choate.
98	Aurora.....	7 00	4 00	11 00	J. E. Getman.
99	Fraternity.....	3 10	4 00	7 10	Jas. J. Finch.
100	Lebanon.....	50	4 00	4 50	H. R. Denny.
101	Bethel.....	3 50	4 00	7 50	E. J. Davenport.
102	Sharon.....	12 75	4 00	16 75	D. C. Hunt.
103	Excelsior.....	6 75	4 00	10 75	J. L. Helm.
104	Ben. Franklin.....	4 95	4 00	8 95	D. F. Ferguson.
105	Elgin.....	6 25	4 00	10 25	J. B. Graves.
106	LaFayette.....	45	4 00	4 45	Ira O. Russell.
107	Gamite.....	7 65	4 00	11 65	H. A. Durand.
108	Newport.....	4 25	4 00	8 25	J. E. Gage.
109	Delta.....	4 50	4 00	8 50	Chas. D. Giddings.
110	Bismarck.....	1 50	4 00	5 50	Luke Kellogg.
111	Kellogg.....				G. W. Savage.
112	Prairie.....				
113	Janesville.....				
114	Winslow Lewis.....				

PAY ROLL.—(Continued.)

NO.	REPRESENTATIVES.	MILEAGE.	PER DIEM	TOTAL.	TO WHOM PAID.
126	Moorhead.		\$4 00	\$11 00	Sam. Partridge.
127	Centennial.	\$1 80	4 00	5 80	M. Ball.
128	Josephus.	6 50	4 00	10 50	John M. Sprague.
129	Swift.	6 30	4 00	10 30	Z. B. Clarke.
130	Arcturus.	1 90	4 00	5 90	O. Whitman.
131	Alma.	5 40	4 00	9 40	J. S. Bowers.
132	Humbolt.	2 25	4 00	6 25	Jul. H. Ackerman.
133	Golden Sheaf.	7 50	4 00	11 50	H. Hutchins.
134	Cokato.	2 90	4 00	6 90	E. H. Farnham.
135	Nelson.	3 80	4 00	7 80	O. H. Bushnell.
136	Walnut.				
Total.				\$1108 64	

All of which is fraternally submitted,

J. H. THOMPSON,
G. W. HARD,
C. M. BENHAM,
Committee.

The Grand Lodge was then called off until 8 o'clock P. M.

EVENING SESSION.

Jan. 14th, 1880—8 o'clock P. M.

The Grand Lodge resumed labor, officers and members as at previous session, with the addition of R. W. L. Z. Rogers, P. G. S. W.

RESOLUTIONS.

Bro. E. W. Durant (i) offered the following:

Resolved, That twenty-five dollars be, and hereby is, appropriated to our Grand Tyler, in payment of his services during the present session of this Grand Lodge, and that a warrant be drawn on the Grand Treasurer for the same.

Referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

Bro. G. M. Andrews (9) offered the following:

Resolved, That the sum of twelve dollars be appropriated to P. G. Chaplain, Rev. G. B. Whipple, to re-imburse him for expenses incurred in attending the funeral of our late Grand Master J. C. Braden.

Referred to Committee on Appropriations.

The following, offered by Bro. J. H. Brown, (104,) was adopted :

Resolved, That the sum of five hundred dollars be, and the same is, hereby set apart for the widows' and orphans' fund, to be invested by and under the directions of the trustees of this Grand Lodge.

COMMITTEE ON OBITUARIES.

The committee, to which was referred that portion of the address of the M. W. Grand Master relating to the death of R. W. Bro. A. J. Van Vorhes, presented the following, which was concurred in :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota :

That part of the committee to which was referred the portion of the Grand Master's address relating to the decease of P. G. J. W. Abram Van Vorhes, present the following :

Bro. Van Vorhes was born in Washington Co., Pennsylvania, Dec. 2, 1793, and made a mason in Washington Lodge, No. 164, Pa., in 1824.

Removed to Athens, Ohio, in 1832. where he remained until appointed, by President Taylor, Register of the first Land Office in Minnesota, which was located at Stillwater, and opened October, 1849.

Bro. Van Vorhes was one of the original petitioners for St. Johns Lodge, No. 1, and its first Secretary. At the organization of the Grand Lodge, Feb., 1853, he was elected Grand Junior Warden ; he was also one of the original petitioners for Minnesota Royal Arch Chapter, No. 1.

Died at Stillwater, Jan. 24, 1879. Was buried by St. Johns Lodge, No. 1.

Retiring in his habits, reticent in speech, devoted to his books, yet he was called upon by his fellow citizens, both in Ohio and Minnesota, to occupy important and responsible positions, all of which he filled with remarkable ability and integrity.

A steadfast, devoted mason ; his daily walk for upwards of half a century presented ample demonstrations that active church membership and masonry were entirely compatible.

As an evidence of our appreciation of his worth as a man and mason, we recommend that the Grand Secretary be instructed to prepare a suitably inscribed tablet to the memory of Past Grand Junior Warden Abram Van Vorhes, and insert it in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

Respectfully submitted,

W. F. GORRIE,
IRVING TODD,
Committee.

Which was concurred in.

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

presented the following report, which was adopted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota :

Your Committee on Appropriations respectfully recommend the following appropriations :

For amount of pay roll, present session.....	\$1108 64
For expenses of M. W. Grand Master.....	300 00
For Grand Secretary's salary.....	500 00
For Grand Secretary's contingencies, postage, &c.....	100 00
For A. T. C. Pierson, Chairman Com. on For. Correspondence.....	250 00
For Grand Tyler.....	25 00
For printing proceedings.....	650 00
For Miller & Rich, printing certificates, &c.....	9 75
For blank returns.....	25 00
For proportion of rent Grand Secretary's office.....	150 00
For insurance on Grand Lodge Property.....	50 00
For Bro. Thos. Montgomery.....	15 00
For Bro. John H. Brown, Chairman Committee on Appeals and Grievances.....	10 00
For Corinthian Lodge, No. 67, dues remitted.....	27 50
For W. S. Wilson, Secretary Sunset Lodge, No. 109.....	7 00
For B. N. Oldhouse, Secretary Mystic Star Lodge, No. 69.....	6 00
For Geo. B. Whipple.....	12 00
For Hiram Abi Lodge, No. 83, overpaid dues.....	50
For High Forest Lodge, No. 85, overpaid dues.....	1 00
For Josephus Lodge, No. 128, overpaid dues.....	50

\$3247 89

All of which is respectfully submitted,

E. P. BARNUM,
WM. F. GORRIE,
L. A. HANCOCK,
Committee.

COMMITTEE ON LODGES U. D. D.

presented the following supplementary report, which was adopted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota :

Your Committee on Work of Lodges U. D. D., to whom was referred back the matter of Appleton Lodge U. D. D., would report, that the irregu-

larities in the records and returns of the lodge have been fully and satisfactorily explained, and we therefore recommend that a charter be granted.

Fraternally submitted,

E. J. DAVENPORT,
O. H. PAGE,
Committee.

The Grand Secretary announced that each of the committees had presented reports, and that there was no further business on his table to be brought before the Grand Lodge, whereupon the M. W. Grand Master made announcement of the appointed officers, and invited P. G. M. E. W. Durant to take the East; who, assisted by Bro. L. A. Hancock (8) as Grand Marshal, proceeded to the

INSTALLATION

of the Grand Officers, elective and appointed.

ELECTIVE.

M. W. HENRY R. WELLS, (36,) Preston.....Grand Master.
R. W. C. H. BENTON, (4,) Minneapolis.....Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. G. H. DAVIS, (23,) St. Cloud,....Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. J. H. BROWN, (104,) Willmar.....Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. J. H. THOMPSON, (19,) Minneapolis.....Grand Treasurer.
R. W. A. T. C. PIERSON, (5,) St. Paul.....Grand Secretary.

APPOINTED.

W. C. W. NASH, (35,) Minneapolis.....Grand Orator.
W. E. J. DAVENPORT, (112,) Minneapolis.....Grand Marshal.
W. J. Q. A. BRADEN, (89,) Litchfield.....Grand Standard Bearer.
W. W. D. CORNISH, (5,) St. Paul.....Grand Sword Bearer.
W. J. A. JOHNSON, (1,) Stillwater.....Grand Senior Deacon.
W. A. LA DUE, (11,) Mantorville.....Grand Junior Deacon.
W. C. W. RICKERSON, (82,) Howard Lake.....Grand Pursuivant.
W. H. R. DENNY, (111,) Carver.....Grand Senior Steward.
W. J. D. FARMER, (58,) Spring Valley.....Grand Junior Steward.
W. HARRY BURNINGHAM, (5,) St. Paul.....Grand Tyler.

It was directed that the W. Bro. Rev. G. B. Whipple, (9,) Grand Chaplain, should be installed in his lodge.

The Twenty-seventh Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Minnesota was then closed in AMPLE FORM, Rev. Bro. G. H. Davis officiating as Grand Chaplain.

A. T. C. PIERSON,
Grand Secretary.

H. R. WELLS,
Grand Master.

In Memoriam.

R. M. Abram Van Vorhes,

P. . G. . J. . W. .

OF THE

GRAND LODGE OF MINNESOTA.

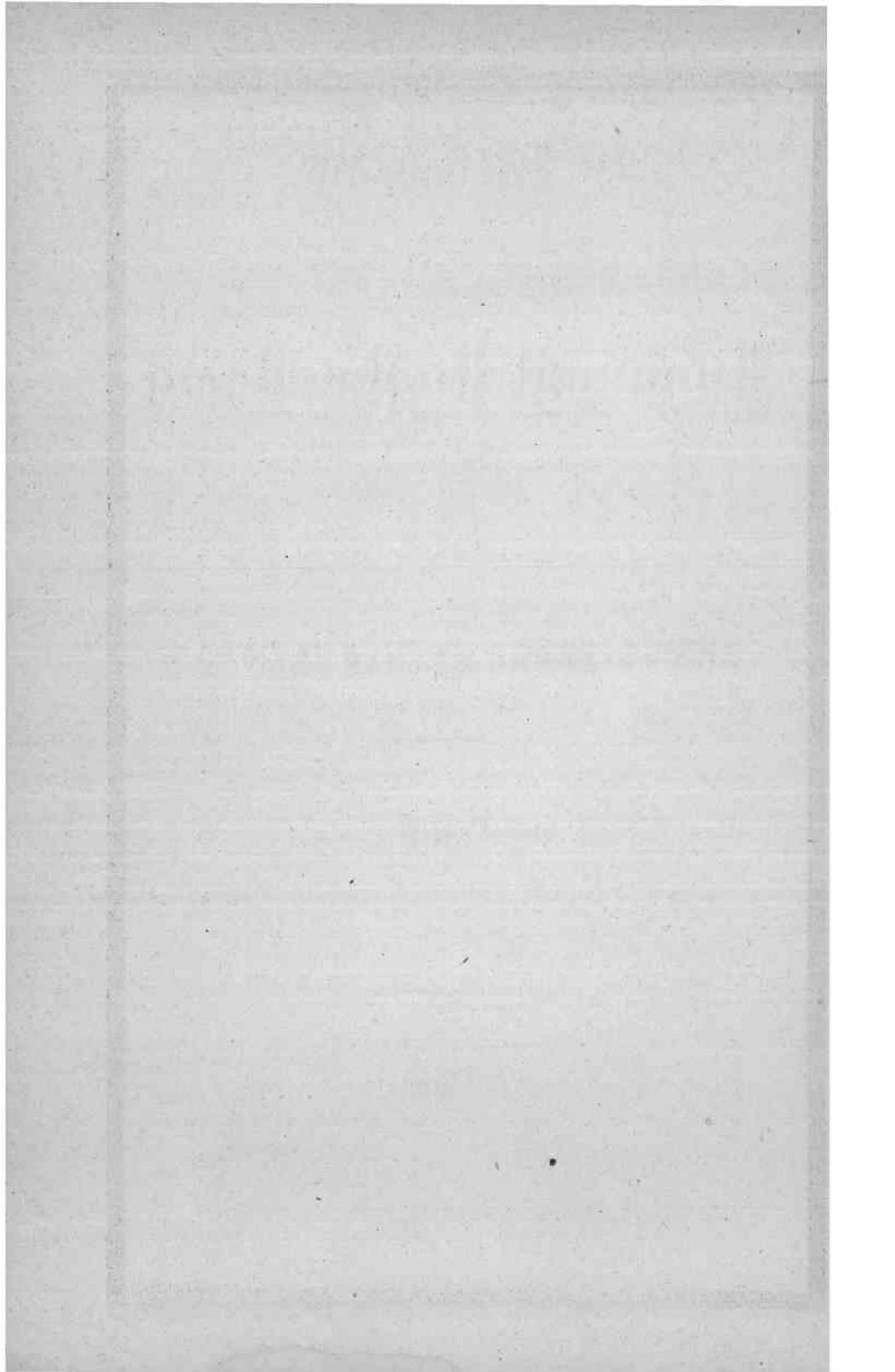
 BORN 

IN WASHINGTON COUNTY, PA., DECEMBER 2, 1793.

 DIED 

AT STILLWATER, MINN., JANUARY 24, 1879.

AGED 86 YEARS.



In Memoriam.

Hugmund Hugmundson

D.: D.: G.: M.:

OF THE

GRAND LODGE OF MINNESOTA.

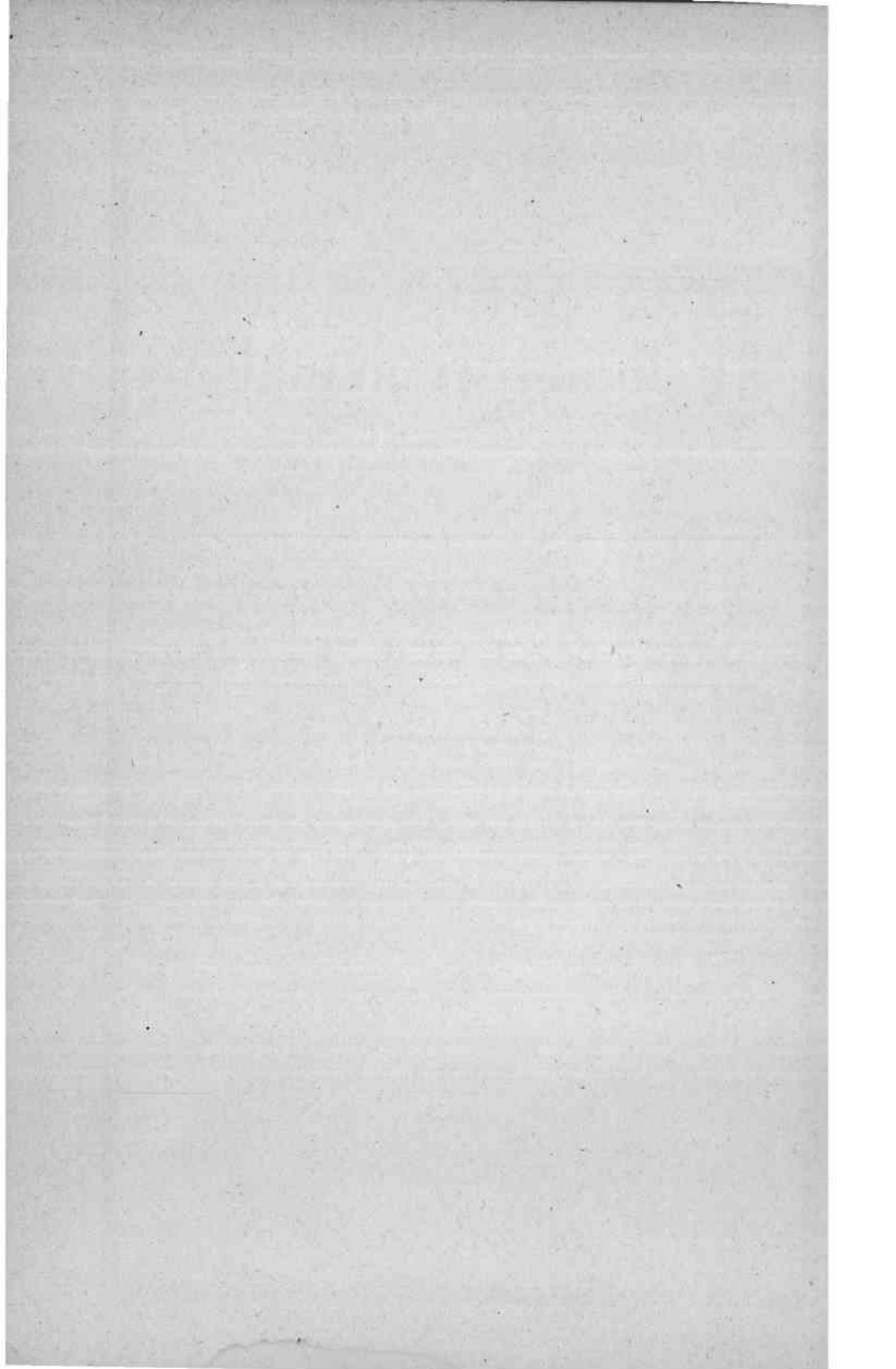
BORN

IN MOOS, NORWAY, NOVEMBER, 1838.

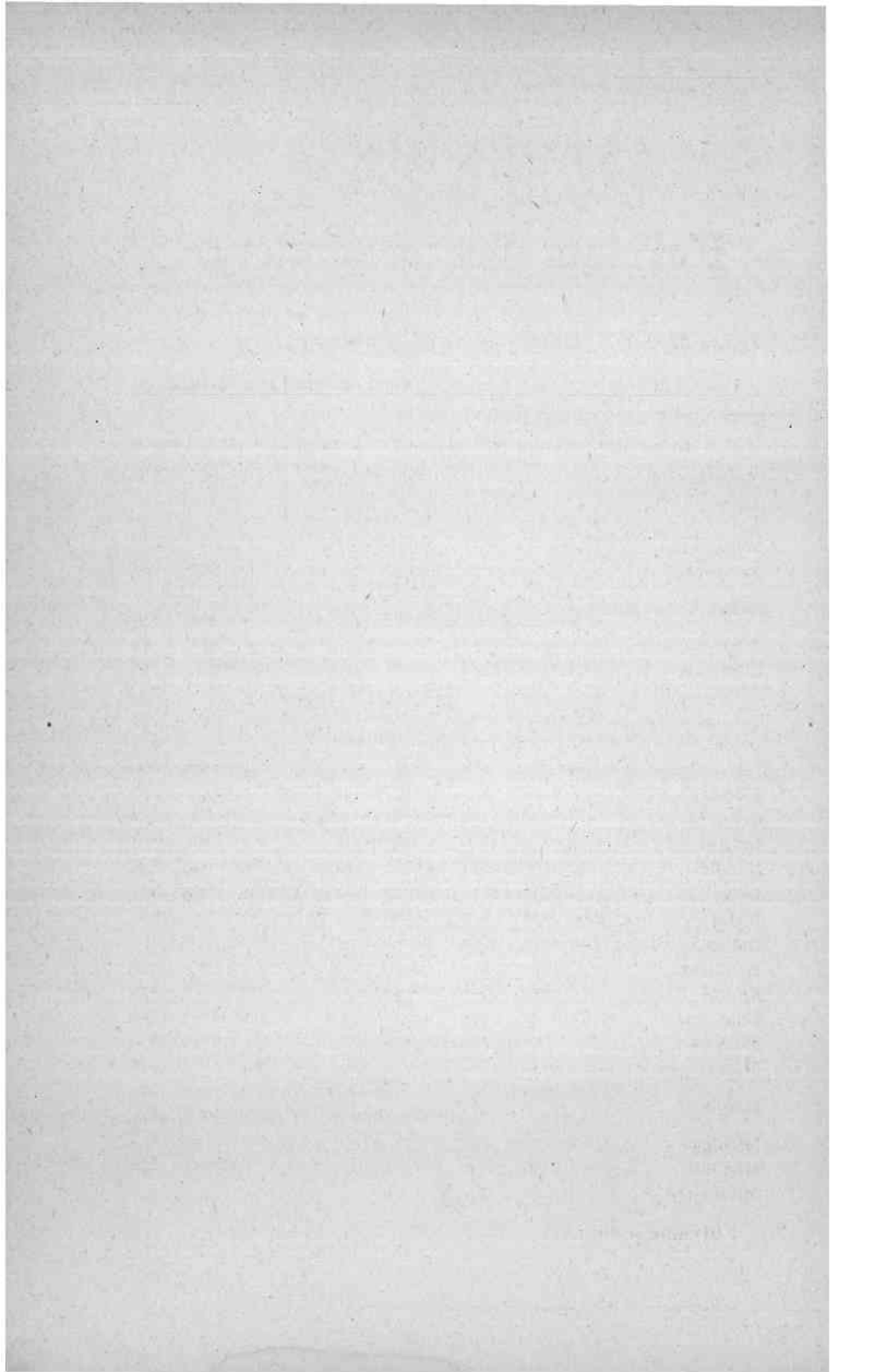
DIED

AT AUSTIN, MINNESOTA, AUGUST 4, 1879.

AGED 41 YEARS.



APPENDIX.



APPENDIX A.

Foreign Correspondence.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota :

The Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence respectfully presents his annual report.

The transactions of the Grand Lodges hereinafter named have been received, examined, and are reported upon in the following pages.

Alabama.....	December, 1878	Montana.....	October, 1878
Arkansas.....	October, 1878	Manitoba.....	June, 1878, 1879
British Columbia..	{ October, 1878	New Hampshire.....	May, 1879
	{ June, 1879	New Jersey.....	January, 1879
Connecticut ..	January, 1879	New York.....	June, 1879
California.....	October, 1878	North Carolina. ..	December, 1878
Colorado, (F. C.).....	1879	Nebraska.....	June, 1879
Canada.....	September, 1878	Nevada.....	June, 1879
Delaware.....	October, 1878, 1879	Nova Scotia.....	June, 1878
Dist. of Columbia.	November, 1878	New Brunswick....	July, 1878, 1879
Florida.....	January, 1879	New Mexico.....	January, 1879
Georgia.....	October, 1878	Ohio.....	October, 1878
Indiana.....	May, 1879	Oregon..	June, 1879
Illinois.....	October, 1879	Pennsylvanla	December, 1878
Iowa.....	June, 1879	Prince Edward's Island.	June, 1879
Idaho.....	September, 1878, 1879	Quebec.....	September, 1878, 1879
Indian Territory..	November, 1878	Rhode Island....	May, 1878, 1879
Kentucky.....	October, 1878	South Carolina....	December, 1878
Kansas.....	October, 1878	Tennessee.....	November, 1878
Louisiana.....	February, 1879	Texas.....	December, 1878
Maine.....	May, 1879	Utah.....	November, 1879
Massachusetts....	December, 1878	Virginia.....	December, 1878
Maryland.....	{ November, 1878	Wisconsin.....	June, 1879
	{ May, 1879	Washington Territory ..	June, 1879
Michigan.....	January, 1879	West Virginia	November, 1878
Missouri.....	October, 1879	Wyoming.....	October, 1878
Mississippi.....	January, 1879		

Fifty-one in number.

ALABAMA, 1878.

The Fifty-eighth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Alabama was held at Montgomery, December 2nd, 3rd and 4th, 1878.

M.: W.: Henry C. Armstrong, G.: M.:, presiding.

Two hundred and seventeen lodges represented.

Four hundred and twenty-three on the roll.

Three lodges chartered during the session.

From the decisions reported, we select :

When complaint is made by a Master Mason in good standing (although not a member of the lodge to which he complains) against a brother, it is the duty of the lodge to which the brother complained of belongs, to investigate the facts; and if the brother complained of is guilty of unmasonic conduct, to prefer charges against him. Absence of the brother complained of from the State is not a sufficient reason to refuse an investigation.

General worthlessness and the reputation of a common liar is good cause for preferring charges; and if sustained, the brother is unworthy masonic protection, and should be expelled.

* * * * *

Anything that contravenes the moral law is unmasonic. Habitual drunkenness being immoral is, therefore, unmasonic. Temperance is one of the cardinal virtues of our institution, and its observance ought to be rigidly enforced by the subordinate lodges.

* * * * *

A lodge in appointing a committee to investigate rumors derogatory to the character of its Worshipful Master, does not violate or conflict with Article VI, Section 25, of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge.

A lodge cannot try its Master, but may become his accuser, and must furnish to the Grand Lodge, to which the worshipful Master is alone amenable, evidence to sustain the charges.

We present an extract from the report of the "Committee on Suspension, Expulsions and Appeals," with the remark that we regard the matter as of infinitely more interest to the welfare of the fraternity than the non-payment of dues, to which so much prominence is given :

In our ritual and ceremonies we profess profound reverence for the great name of the Supreme Architect of the Universe. Some of us, nevertheless,

on leaving the sacred precincts of the lodge have no hesitation in taking the awful name of God in vain. Many of us have heard masons use language so extremely profane as to almost curdle the blood in our veins. If we believe what we profess; if a recognition of our obligations to Deity is that cement which holds together the several parts of our mystic edifice; and if we are not willing that our professions shall be put to burning shame; then ought we to pay pointed attention to this matter, and see to it that profane swearing on the part of masons be made subject to masonic discipline.

* * * * *

Hence, it is recommended by your committee that it be considered and held to be sufficient cause for arresting the charter of any subordinate lodge that said lodge shall wink at, or pass, without notice, any public drunkenness or profanity of its members.

The following, relative to unaffiliated masons, was adopted :

Resolved, That from and after the passage of this resolution, subordinate lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge may, at any time, suspend dimitted or unaffiliated masons who shall have resided continuously within their jurisdiction for twelve months or more, and have made no application to any lodge for affiliation during that time; *provided*, however, that due and timely notice shall always be given to the brother against whom such action is about to be taken, and he shall be permitted to attend and satisfy the lodge against such action.

We have been under the impression that membership in a lodge was voluntary; that a mason had a perfect right to deny himself of the privileges and advantages attending lodge membership if he so willed.

Free and coercion, to our ideas, are not compatible.

We find, as usual, a well digested report on Foreign Correspondence, from the pen of Bro. Oliver S. Beers. The report embraces a review of the proceedings of forty Grand Lodges, those of Minnesota for 1877 included.

Under the head of Connecticut, he says :

We confess our penchant for these old Grand Bodies of the land of steady habits, where, long ago, our forefathers toiled and suffered against obstacles interposed by physical, climatic and mortal (savage) foes, to establish "liberty, equality and fraternity" in those (then) western wilds. Masonry, we know, was then, in conjunction with religion, the co-operative power

in sustaining their courage, overcoming their doubts, and adding zeal and organizing wisdom to the apparently feeble efforts of these refugee adventurers in preparing the way for the march of civilization and freedom westward. Masonry is still, now as ever, the nursing "mother of States and statesmen," and true masonry still survives and prospers in Connecticut, one of its original nurseries on the American continent.

M. . W. . Henry Clay Armstrong, Notasulga, Grand Master.

R. . E. . Daniel Sayre, Montgomery, Grand Secretary, were each re-elected.

Bro. Oliver S. Beers, Mobile, Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee.

ARKANSAS, 1878.

The Thirty-ninth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas was opened at Little Rock, October 14th, 1878.

M. . W. . E. H. English, P. . G. . M. ., presiding.

Six lodges represented.

The communication was adjourned over until January 14, 1879, at which time ninety-eight lodges were represented.

Three hundred and fifty-four on the roll.

M. . W. . John F. Hill, G. . M. ., presiding.

Among the decisions reported, we note :

1. The ballot is ordered by the Master if the committee report favorably or unfavorably, and there is one way of rejecting a candidate, and that is by secret ballot.

2. The Master and Wardens of subordinate lodges shall in no case be installed by proxy.

* * * * *

4. A brother ordered to receive a reprimand by the Master for unmasonic conduct. He refused to receive the reprimand, paid his dues to the Secretary, and asked for a dimit. He is not entitled to a dimit until he receives the reprimand by the Master as ordered.

Fifteen dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

Transactions of local interest.

Bro. Geo. E. Dodge presented an able report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing a review of the proceedings of forty-

three Grand Lodges—those of Minnesota for 1877 included. Of R. . E. . Bro. R. A. Jones' address in the Lodge of Sorrow, he says:

Being ill, and exposed to a temperature of thirty-two degrees, we marvel at the fervid eloquence which characterizes the address of our brother—for his language is indeed beautiful.

Bro. Dodge is inclined to "poke sticks" at our Grand Secretary on account of the titles used in the report of the Lodge of Sorrow.

The ceremonial Sorrow Lodges are borrowed from the A. . and A. . R. ., and in reporting the doings, the titles of the brethren engaged, should be given according to the Rite from which the ceremony is taken.

M. . W. . George Thornburg, Powhattan, was elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . Luke E. Barber, Little Rock, re-elected Grand Secretary.

BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1878, 1879.

We are in receipt of a pamphlet containing the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia had at the Seventh and Eighth Annual Communications, and also of two specials—each held at Victoria.

The Seventh was held February 16th and 18th, 1878.

M. . W. . Fred'k Williams, Grand Master, presiding.

Six lodges represented.

Nine on the roll.

This young Grand Lodge having but three hundred and seventeen Master Masons on the roll, has a balance in bank applicable to General Purposes of \$527.41, and a Widows' and Orphans' Fund of \$835.23.

A Building Association composed of "members of the order" only, was organized in 1877, five hundred shares at twenty dollars each, were taken, two lots purchased;—a Special Communication of the Grand Lodge was held April 22d, 1878, and the corner stone of a "Masonic Temple" laid; October 28th, another Special Communication was held and the new Temple was dedicated in ample form.

The Eighth Annual Communication was held June 21st and 23d, 1879.

M. W. Eli Harrison, G. M.—elected at the previous Annual Communication—presiding.

Five lodges represented.

We note the following, among the reported decisions :

QUESTION.—Is it the duty of the W. M. to cause all the communications addressed to the lodge to be read in open lodge?

ANSWER.—If the W. M. finds the communication of such a nature that it would be improper to have it read before the lodge, it is his duty to withhold the same.

Transactions of local interest.

No report on Foreign Correspondence.

M. W. Eli Harrison, was re-elected Grand Master.

R. W. Edgar Crow Baker, elected Grand Secretary, each of Victoria.

CONNECTICUT, 1879.

The Ninety-first Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut was held at New Haven, January 15th and 16th, 1879.

M. W. Dwight Phelps, G. M., presiding.

One hundred and eight lodges represented.

One hundred and nineteen on the roll.

One dispensation for a new lodge issued during the year.

We note two of the decisions reported :

1st. That dues must not accrue against a brother during the time that he is non-affiliated.

* * * * *

3d. That a lodge can, (without previous notice,) at any stated communication, lawfully make an assessment to provide money to aid a distressed brother, and enforce its collection.

The following resolutions were adopted :

That no Master Mason, in this jurisdiction, of thirty years' good and regular standing, shall be subject to discipline for non-payment of dues.

* * * * *

Resolved, That immediately before the closing of the annual communication of the Grand Lodge the roll be called, and any lodge found not to be represented upon such roll-call be declared delinquent, unless excused.

A report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing a critical review of the proceedings of forty-seven Grand Lodges, was presented by Bro. J. K. Wheeler.

Under the head of California, he says—in which we concur :

The court room is the proper place to institute law-suits, and no charges should ever be entertained in a lodge for the purpose of harmonizing difficulties of a legal character. Commercial transactions cannot be adjudicated in a masonic court room, and the mistakes of trade should be decided in the civil courts, if the requisition of any authority is required.

Relative to Grand Lodge jurisdiction, he says :

We have always noticed that Grand Lodges are never as ready to relinquish their control over subordinates, chartered in unoccupied territory, after a Grand Lodge has been established therein, as they are to prescribe the doctrine for others to follow. Somehow, like doctors, they dislike to take their own medicine. But it seems to us there is a principle in this matter of jurisdiction that is vital to the harmonious perpetuity of the institution. If this principle of exclusive jurisdiction, within the territory of a Grand Lodge, cannot be maintained, then there is nothing but confusion among the craft; and every State is interested, for their own sake as well as their neighbors', in supporting this theory, so universally recognized in this country.

We do not recognize the right of the representatives of three lodges getting together, proclaiming themselves a Grand Lodge, to the exclusion of two others, and then demanding of the two that they surrender their charters and take a dispensation, subject to future action.

There is no law that can force a body of masons to surrender chartered rights; and there is no law that authorizes a body of men or masons to assume authority over territory already occupied.

Combination gives parties no authority over territory that was not possessed by those entering into the combination.

Minnesota receives no pecuniary advantages from the lodges

alluded to, and never has received a dollar from either beyond the charter fee.

On this matter, more anon.

In the Cuban difficulties, Bro. Wheeler analyses the action of the two bodies claiming to be the Grand Lodge, and arrives at the conclusion that—

In view of the foregoing statements we can in no possible way conceive a reason for extending recognition to the Grand Lodge of Cuba, which we consider as much an outgrowth of sedition as was the recent attempt in Canada to form the Grand Lodge of Ontario. If the Grand Lodge of Colon was regular, the new Grand Lodge is in open rebellion with the only constituted authority. If the Grand Lodge of Colon was irregular, then the Grand Lodge of Cuba, being composed of lodges under it, must be an irregular Grand Lodge. There is no alternative.

We believe the Grand Lodge of Colon is the only legitimate authority over the three degrees within the jurisdiction; and that this right has never been relinquished by it since the formation of the Grand Lodge in 1859. Instead of becoming subordinate to the Supreme Council, it has persistently resisted all encroachments on its rights, and finally came off the victor. The Supreme Council endeavored to usurp the prerogations of the Grand Lodge, but failed; and the Grand Lodge ought to be entitled to the sympathies and encouragement of other Grand Lodges, for the vigorous manner in which she has defended her prerogatives against these unwarranted usurpations.

M. . W. . Israel M. Bullock, Bridgeport, was elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . Joseph K. Wheeler, Hartford, re-elected Grand Secretary, and is also Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee.

Since penning the foregoing, we are in receipt of a circular announcing the death of the M. . W. . Grand Master.

R. . W. . John H. Barlow, Deputy Grand Master, will officiate until the next annual communication.

CALIFORNIA, 1878.

The Twenty-ninth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of California was held at San Francisco, October 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th, 1878.

M. . W. . John Mills Browne, G. . M. ., presiding.

One hundred and seventy-three lodges represented.

Two hundred and forty-six on the roll.

Dispensations for five new lodges issued during the year.

We present a few selections from the address; the whole is worth reproducing. We hope that the brethren in this jurisdiction will read and carefully consider the following:

Faults may be found in the best systems, and irregularities exist in the best methods. Men do things in opposition to original resolution, and when done, are astonished at the act. Men, however excellent in goodness, have moments of weakness—moments when the clearness of their moral perceptions is clouded. So societies, like individuals, are purer some days than others.

Certain masons have erroneous ideas as to the true intent of practical masonry, and these ideas, when entertained by the outer world, become, in its estimation, facts. Now it is not a fact that it is a system of benefits and endowments; that it is a membership to promote business interests; or that in any way its workings recognize its receipts as loans, from which a proportionate benefit, in manner of a return, may be derived. It is purely and simply a system of practical charity in its highest sense, disbursing its funds for the relief of the poor and suffering, without specific amount or defined allowance, but corresponding in sums to the actual want.

It is not a fact that it is a club or place merely of social gathering, an assemblage of boon companions for conviviality or selfish gratification. It is a companionship of brothers, united by mystic bonds, which, while affording gratification to the social feelings, finds new motives and added obligations to rectitude of life, and to the practice of the genuineness of benevolence; a society for instruction, for the promotion of public and private virtues, for the encouragement of social improvement in every form, for the enhancement and refinement of common life, and for the advocacy of reformatory schemes with intent to cope successfully with social mischief.

It is not a fact that it is co-equal with, or takes the place of, religion. It is a perfect system of morality, of no nationality, and, as such, is the conservator of religion. It progresses with the highest civilization, and, by its propagation of human sympathy, unites men of all nations in one common bond of amity. Masonry has no creed but faith; it cherishes hope and fears not, and employs charity in place of persecution. Although discountenanced by suspicion, and excommunicated by jealousy, it continues to be recognized as a steadfast and powerful instrument for the promotion of peace and good will among men.

There is a popular belief that masons, when acting as judges, jurors or

citizens, frequently permit the guilty members of the craft to escape such justice as they would measure to those not members of the order.

* * * * *

Masonry acknowledges the supremacy of the government, enforces respect for the civil magistrates, and enjoins upon its followers an obedience to law, to be exemplary in the discharge of civic duties, and to be quiet and peaceable citizens. It does not array itself against law, or seek, however remotely, to shield the guilty from punishment. It has its own trials, and convicts offenders who have been acquitted in civil courts by reason of legal or verbal technicalities; and, while it exercises, as far as practicable, a sympathizing equity, it exacts, when the occasion demands, a rigid justice. There is no condonation of crime in masonry. One is first a citizen, then a mason. Bad citizens make bad masons. Good masons are always good citizens. They recognize their duties to society as paramount, and are aware that the general welfare reaches them as well as others; that, as all is more than a part, their duties as good citizens to the common community are among their primary obligations; and that support to the laws and the punishment of law-breaking is alike expected, irrespective of the professions of the offenders. It is time that less-informed masons and the non-masonic community should be told that neither judge nor jury, as masons, have a right to avert a merited punishment from a guilty mason, or in any civil procedure to have their verdicts influenced in favor of a party because he is a mason. This is not masonry; and if it were, then masonry would be justly doomed.

* * * * *

The meagre attendance at the funeral of a brother, which not unfrequently happens, is another deplorable fact. This remark is applicable mainly to masons who reside in large communities. To pay the last sad tribute of respect to a deceased brother; to evince to his family and friends the estimation had of his character, and the regret experienced at his loss; and to exhibit to the public that the brotherhood performs that which it professes, are duties not to be omitted without injury to the fraternity. It may necessitate some inconvenience; it requires a little time to accompany the departed brother to his resting-place, there to cast the evergreen and give the farewell; but the inconvenience will soon be forgotten, and the time will not be regretted, in the consciousness of having done unto him that which you would have done unto you when the ending comes. To honor the dead is commendable; to ignore the dead is lamentable. Masonry inculcates the first and condemns the last.

* * * * *

Mention is made of the use of proselytism. Surprise can hardly express the effect of the announcement, and yet the assertion. Masonry, in its sublime independence, has a principle peculiar to itself. It admits of no

proselytes. It rules that its followers must not solicit adherents or seek converts by heralding its virtues; its good deeds, when public property, are a sufficient advertisement. Is a brother so misinformed of its principles that he fails to discriminate between right and wrong? Does he regard masonry through a medium so discolored and distorted, not to know that the making of converts is a masonic malpractice? Yet truth, it seems, compels the admission of the fact. It is prohibitive and admonitory, a denial direct, absolute and complete. A brother can find ample work in correcting the errors and developing the capabilities of his lodge without seeking to disturb its foundations.

Among the decisions reported, we select :

The action of a grand jury does not obviate a masonic investigation.

* * * * *

The case having been settled without action on the part of the lodge, there is no propriety in filing the charges in the lodge archives.

* * * * *

Question.—Is a non-affiliate required to make application to the nearest lodge in the jurisdiction in which he resides?

Answer.—No. He can apply for affiliation with any lodge in this jurisdiction.

Question.—Are the members of a lodge entitled to know the name of a brother who objects to the initiation of a candidate elected to receive the degrees?

Answer.—No. It is sufficient for the Master to know that an objection is made, and that it is a valid one.

* * * * *

Question.—Shall a blank be counted?

Answer.—No. Obviously, in a contested election, it is not to be supposed that any one would purposely deposit a blank; and when found, under such circumstances, it is undoubtedly the result of a blank adhering to a written ballot. In the Grand Lodge blanks have never been counted.

R. . W. . A. G. Abell presented his twenty-third annual report as Grand Secretary. He reports returns and dues received from all the lodges in the jurisdiction.

From the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, we present :

Masonic trials are strictly criminal proceedings, and the accused must be deemed innocent until he is proven guilty by competent evidence, or

by his own confession. He may, for himself, plead guilty, but it would be unsafe to permit another to do so for him.

II. When a mason is in prison, under indictment for murder, and awaiting trial in the proper court, ought his lodge to have charges preferred against him at once, and proceed to his trial?

The Grand Master decided that the lodge might properly wait till a trial had been had, and his guilt or innocence determined in the proper court.

The committee concur in that decision. It does not necessarily follow that a party is guilty because an indictment for even the gravest of offenses has been found against him.

* * * * *

III. Would the Secretary of a lodge be justified in refusing to receive the dues of a suspended member of his lodge from one who might be deemed to have personal interest in making such payment without the knowledge or consent of the suspended member?

* * * * *

As a rule, however, it should not be left to the discretion of the Secretary to determine whether a brother offering to pay the dues of another was doing it to subserve his own personal interests or not, or whether the good of his lodge would be best promoted by receiving or refusing the payment.

The presumption is, and should be, that the brother making such payment does it from pure motives, and that it will meet the approval of the party for whom it is made. If a brother is in arrears for dues, and is about to be, or has been, suspended for non-payment thereof, ordinarily another may properly come to his relief and make the payment for him, without his knowledge; and the circumstances must be peculiar that would make it proper for the Secretary to inquire as to the motive. The consent of the party for whom the payment is made must be presumed, because it is for his good. If, however, having the ability, he, himself, had refused to make the payment, then no other should offer or should be allowed to make it for him. We do not want unwilling members.

* * * * *

IV. If one mason buys goods from another, and subsequently leaves the State without paying for them, should the Master of the lodge having jurisdiction entertain charges against the debtor for his failure to pay the debt?

The Grand Master decided that in such a case charges should not be entertained unless the transaction was fraudulent; that lodges were not instituted for the purpose of collecting debts; and that, up to this time, no procedure had been devised looking to such a purpose.

Your committee most heartily indorse the decision. There is an old law maxim that the buyer must look out for the thing he buys. They think

that the seller may be advised to look out to whom he sells and for what he sells. Masonic law punishes men for offences against the moral law, but does not attempt to enforce the payment of debts.

V. Shall our lodge be permitted, through circulars or otherwise, to solicit pecuniary assistance from the lodges or masons of other jurisdictions?

The Grand Master replied in the negative, and his answer has the approval of your committee.

* * * * *

VI. When the report of a committee has been received and approved, is it competent for the lodge to expunge any part of it?

The Grand Master decided that it was not. In the first instance, the lodge could receive and approve or reject the report. If it contained anything objectionable it could refer the subject again to the committee, or discharge the committee who had presented the report and appoint another; but that expunging records was not in order. That decision also meets the entire approval of the committee.

Bro. Wm. H. Hill presented another of his able and exhaustive reports on Foreign Correspondence; the one before us, embracing a review of the proceedings of fifty-one Grand Lodges, those of Minnesota included.

Under the head of Utah, we find:

But an Entered Apprentice is a mason, and, as such, has rights, though not to the full extent of a Master Mason. If unworthy, he should not be advanced; but he should know what has been objected to him, and should have the right to meet and explain the charge. If not, what are the "rights" to which he has been admitted?

M. . . W. . . John Mills Browne, Vallejo, Grand Master.

R. . . W. . . Alexander G. Abell, San Francisco, Grand Secretary, were each re-elected.

Bro. Wm. Henry Hill, Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee.

COLORADO, 1879.

From Colorado we have received only the report on Foreign Correspondence, written by Bro. E. H. Collins; it embraces a review of the proceedings of forty-six Grand Lodges—those of Minnesota included.

CANADA, 1878.

The Twenty-Third Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Canada was held at Toronto, September 11th and 12th, 1878.

The Grand Lodge of Canada, to say the least, is a very accommodating body. During the year a special communication was held at Brighton, for the purpose of laying the corner stone of a Methodist Episcopal church; another at Yorkville, to dedicate a new masonic hall; another at Norwood, to lay the corner stone of a Presbyterian church; another at Lansdowne, to lay the corner stone of an Episcopal church; and still another at Blythe, to lay the corner stone of another Episcopal church. It is a pleasing feature to see the various religious denominations working in harmony with masonry.

M. W. W. H. Weller, G. M., presided at the annual communication.

Two hundred and twenty-four lodges represented.

Total number of lodges borne on the rolls since organization, 372; of which 6 have become extinct, 38 ceded to Grand Lodge of Quebec, and 4 to that of Manitoba, leaving 324 on the roll.

Eight dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

A resolution was adopted providing for the establishment, in connection with the Grand Secretary's office, of a Grand Lodge Library.

Another, providing for the collection and publication of the records of masonry in Canada, prior to the organization of the Grand Lodge.

Bro. Henry Robertson, as usual, presented the report on Foreign Correspondence. Minnesota receives a brief notice.

M. W. W. H. Weller, Cobourg, was elected Grand Master.

R. E. J. J. Mason, Hamilton, re-elected Grand Secretary.

Bro. Henry Robertson, Collingwood, Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee.

DELAWARE, 1878.

The Seventy-second Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Delaware was held at Wilmington, October 2d and 3d, 1878.

dious halls, well furnished, and are under the guidance of zealous and accomplished craftsmen. The exceptions are limited. Minnieska, 74, owing to the migration of most of its members, has applied for leave to surrender its charter. I have directed R. W. I. B. Cummings, in whose district the lodge is situate, to see that the lodge is properly summoned, and if the charter is to be surrendered, that he take possession of the property interests of the lodge, and report his action without delay.

I invite your serious consideration to one feature of the business methods that obtain, to a large extent among the subordinate lodges, as developed in the reports, and that is the tendency to contract indebtedness, and in many instances with too little consideration of their resources and ability, or want of them, to pay their obligations. In one instance I note a report of liabilities on the part of the lodge at three hundred dollars; assets, none. There are other similar instances.

My assistance was desired some months since to adjust a matter between one of our lodges and its creditors. About ten years since the lodge, being in flourishing circumstances, and having every prospect for a prosperous future, issued its bonds for three thousand dollars, bearing interest at ten per cent. per annum, payable in ten years, and negotiated the bonds to secure means with which to build a hall, which they accomplished. They placed their structure upon a lot, the title to which was defective. Misfortunes came, the bonds were about to mature, the lodge had no means with which to meet them, and they were in despair. Luckily, at the last moment, title to the property was secured, the bonds were refunded in new ones, to run twenty years at 7 per cent., and the lodge has taken a new hold on life, and are filled with hope that some time they may pay their enormous debt.

I mention this instance to illustrate the extent of liability which lodges will assume when unadvised. These questions present themselves: Are lodges in their capacity as associations authorized to incur debts for any purpose? If liabilities are so incurred and disaster comes, as it may, and the lodge cannot meet and cancel their obligations, their charter surrendered or arrested, all their property interests absorbed by the Grand Lodge, what are the obligations and liabilities of the G. L. for the payment of

such debts? The individual who incurs obligations to his fellow without resource to meet it, dishonors himself in the act. May not our subordinate lodges become obnoxious to the charge of like gravity, and if so, who more to blame than this Grand Lodge, which having plenary restraining power, fails to exercise it for the protection of its subordinates, its own credit, and the best interests of the craft?

Section 13, of title third of our Grand Lodge Constitution provides as follows:

"All governmental powers, whether executive, legislative or judicial, not expressly delegated by the Grand Lodge, are inherent in, and reserved to it, as the supreme governing body."

See also section 9 of same title.

In this provision, as I construe it, we find ample power and warrant for the purpose indicated.

BY-LAWS.

It is absolutely essential to the successful working of our subordinate lodges, that they be provided with a good substantial code of by-laws consistent with themselves and not in derogation of the G.·. L.·. Constitution, its rules and edicts. Many of our wisest and most zealous Grand Masters fully appreciating this need and cognizant of the sad deficiency in that respect, have recommended the adoption of a code of by-laws by the G.·. L.·. to be imposed on the subordinate lodges to meet a great need and to attain uniformity. It is claimed by some of our brothers well versed in masonic law and usage that the power does not exist in the G.·. L.·. to do this, and, if it did, it would be impracticable. All agree as to its desirability. I am clear that under our constitution the power does exist, and from my observation and knowledge of the deficiency in form and substance in many of the codes adopted by some of our subordinate lodges, I am equally confident that the power should be exercised to a certain extent. To accomplish the desired result, and, without raising the question of the extent of power, or the propriety of its exercise by the G.·. L.·. I suggest that a committee be appointed to report to the G.·. L.·. a code of by-laws, to be

published with our proceedings, as a suggestion and for the information of our subordinate lodges, with a recommendation that the subordinate lodges, as often as they may change their by-laws or adopt new ones, conform to the published code as near as may be deemed desirable. In this way I have no doubt that the end sought will be accomplished within a reasonable time and that it will be of permanent advantage.

DUES.

The reports of lodges for the past year show renewed activity in the work.

The membership is steadily increasing, though the order of striking from the roll, under our regulation for that purpose, is still enforced.

The necessity for the exercise of this rule is lamentable but not to be avoided. Lamentable, because it develops those among us who hold so lightly the high privileges and honors affiliation brings, its associations and attendant pleasures which they betray and sacrifice for a paltry stipend. Dues should be fixed at the lowest practicable amount, and then they should be collected. Especial care must be taken that we do not strike down the needy brother—be merciful but just. Without the prompt payment of dues the lodges, as we now administer them, must go down, leaving no monument to show that it ever existed. The hall must be constructed or procured which is to constitute our home; it must be furnished to make it at once comfortable and attractive; masonic clothing and working tools must be had, as well as all things essential; and justice requires that all this be done from a common fund to which all contribute, and not alone from the more liberally disposed.

GRAND LODGE FUNDS.

It is a source of gratification, after the very unsatisfactory experience we have had for years past, that our Grand Lodge funds are now in such a commendable condition. The total receipts from all sources for the past year was the grand total of four

thousand two hundred and one dollars, including charter fees of the last session, and for dispensations. All claims have been fully paid, and we now have a balance in the hands of the R. W. Grand Treasurer of one thousand four hundred and fifty-seven and 30-100 dollars.

There was appropriated and set apart at our last session, for a Widows' and Orphans' Fund, the sum of five hundred dollars, which it is to be hoped is the beginning of a fixed and enduring monument attesting our appreciation of the holy purpose and object for which our organization exists.

This, and all funds so willingly and generously brought to our keeping by our subordinate lodges, should be contemplated as a sacred trust, dedicated to charity, and should be guarded by us with zealous watchfulness, and we should see to it, that it be not wasted in extravagance nor impaired by needless expenditure.

Our general regulations, section 84, provide "that the management of the permanent funds shall be vested in a board of trustees of the permanent fund, said board to be composed of the Grand Master, Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary;" but, by resolution of the Grand Lodge adopted in 1866, the Grand Treasurer was instructed "to invest funds in his possession, after paying the appropriations, and retaining five hundred dollars as contingent fund, in bonds of the United States of the issue known as seven-thirties."

It is not clear that this resolution was intended as a permanent direction to be followed in all the future in contravention of the general regulation quoted, yet since the Grand Lodge had assumed to so direct, and that no bonds of the description given could now be obtained, the committee thought it best to await further advisory action on the part of the Grand Lodge, rather than take the responsibility of making investment of the Grand Lodge funds, especially since the sources for profitable and safe investment are so limited. I think a carefully defined regulation should be adopted in that regard.

LODGE CHARITY.

There has a practice, reprehensible in my judgment, obtained to

a degree among subordinate lodges in our own and other Grand Lodge jurisdictions, of calling upon the lodge of which a sojourning brother, in want, is a member, for remuneration, and in some cases for compensation for relief extended. I esteem this course as subversive of the great underlying fundamental principle of our institution. It is making relief a subject of charge, and charity a creature of commerce. To relieve a worthy brother in distress, so far as we may do, without injury to ourselves, is our prerogative and our duty. If actuated by the expectation of a fee or hope of reward in sustaining a falling brother it is a prostitution of our high calling. I am aware that the practice alluded to has the countenance and support of very many conscientious brothers, and I fraternally concede to them the best intentions and purest motives. It is based upon the ground that there is nothing inconsistent with our principles and the motives which actuate us in rendering a statement of expenses incurred for an afflicted brother or his family in distress, to the lodge from which he hails, and leaving it to their masonic courtesy to reimburse, if they may and their financial condition will warrant. I cannot see a distinction between this course of action and an actual demand, and if otherwise it is so absolutely certain to degenerate and become a subject of gross abuse, that I hope to see this Grand Lodge give emphatic expression of its sense of the practice, and if in accord with its judgment, that subordinate lodges within this jurisdiction be prohibited from directly or indirectly presenting any claim upon a sister lodge, within this or any jurisdiction—except upon request,—for reimbursement for moneys expended for the relief of a sojourning brother in distress.

DUAL MEMBERSHIP.

I regret to say that the action of our Grand Lodge at its last session again opened the question of dual membership, repealing all regulations heretofore adopted forbidding it, and deluging us with all its consuming perplexities. This action was taken under the advisement of our committee on masonic jurisprudence, than whom we cannot among our number select more zealous, intelligent and conscientious brothers, nor any better fitted to

consider matters of interest to the craft. It is with sincere regret that I am compelled to announce, that in administering the affairs of the Grand Lodge the past year, I have found myself, under the dictate of my best judgment, obliged to overrule their determination as ratified and confirmed by the Grand Lodge, else against the law as I construe it, declare one of the chartered lodges without legal standing for want of membership, the lodge having been constituted without the charter members first having withdrawn formally by dimit from the lodges from which they hailed.

In Grand Lodge proceedings for 1879, page 46, *et seq.*, appears the action referred to.

The position taken is substantially—

1. That it is necessary for a brother to sign the by-laws before he can become a member of the lodge.

2. That the Grand Lodge has no power to sever the membership of a brother from his lodge except by disciplinary action.

3. That in the absence of a specific regulation of the Grand Lodge, a mason can join as many lodges as will receive him.

After a careful consideration of the important questions involved and some research, moved by a desire to preserve the status of the newly instituted lodges, if consistent with the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, not actuated by any desire to criticise or to provoke discussion, I determined, in my own judgment, and so decided—

First—That a brother who joined in the petition to the Grand Lodge, to be with others so joining, constituted a new lodge, becomes when the charter is granted a member, an integral part of the new lodge so chartered and constituted per force of the power given to the Grand Lodge by the Constitution to constitute new lodges.

“ My brothers, what is a lodge?”

The initiate who responds from the northeast corner, “ a certain number of masons,” &c., finds authority for his response in the lecture, also in section 3 of our Grand Lodge Constitution, and in section 16, which provides for lodge organization.

It may not have by-laws to sign, yet it is a lodge, and may make masons, though it may not enlarge its membership.

Section 26, of the Constitution, provides—

“That none but Master Masons and those who have signed the by-laws, can be members of a subordinate or particular lodge.”

Do the constitutional seven (7) or more Master Masons who are constituted a lodge when they shall have adopted by-laws for their government and for newly made Master Masons to sign, become ousted by that act of their constitutional and chartered rights as a lodge?

See also, Sub. 2, Sec. 16 of Title Fourth.

Second—It may be conceded, for argument's sake, that the Grand Lodge may not arbitrarily sever the membership of a brother from his home lodge, except by disciplinary action. Yet the signing the petition to the Grand Lodge for permission to organize a new lodge, the receiving the dispensation and warrant in response, the being constituted a new lodge is the result of the voluntary act of the brother, and will operate as a dimit.

Third—A mason cannot be a member of more than one lodge at one time, for the reasons:

1. He ought only to be a member of the lodge in the jurisdiction of which he resides, that it may have the full benefit of his energies and zeal.

2. It is contrary to masonic law and usage, as the great weight of masonic authority discloses.

3. It is incompatible with our representative system which the Constitution inalienably secures to each subordinate lodge.

Secs. 13 and 20, Title 2d, of the Const.

If a brother may be a member of more than one lodge he may be W.. Master of many. He could only represent one in the Grand Lodge at the same time, leaving his other lodges unrepresented; or if he could represent all, he may so multiply his masonic privileges as to wield a controlling power and influence in the Grand Lodge, to the exclusion of his brothers, and utterly destructive of the principles of fraternal equality.

4. The Constitution, by reasonable construction, forbids it. It, in express terms, suspends his membership in his home lodge while working a lodge U. : D. :, the suspension to be determined in new membership if charter be granted, or to revert if otherwise.

If a brother may belong to both lodges when constituted, why suspend his membership in the one while U. . D. .? I ask the candid and serious consideration of the Grand Lodge to this subject, to the end that this vexed question may be finally determined. It is a duty that we owe to the subordinate lodges, that we place our Grand Lodge upon the solid foundation occupied by nearly every other Grand Lodge jurisdiction, and if it be deemed necessary to so amend our Grand Lodge Constitution to reach that end let us do so.

FOREIGN GRAND LODGES.

This G. . L. . entered into fraternal relations with the G. . L. . of Colon, at Havana, in 1860, which, owing to the disturbed condition of affairs in that island have been interrupted. There has been an attempt on the part of some of the lodges in that jurisdiction to form another G. . L. ., which is asking recognition. The correspondence received from these rival claimants is somewhat voluminous and is herewith laid before you. I can see no good ground or reason for withdrawing our recognition of the G. . L. . of Colon and bestowing it upon the so-called G. . L. . of Cuba.

A majority of the lodges in Australia, holding charters granted by the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland and Scotland, respectively, have formed a G. . L. . called the G. . L. . of New South Wales, and ask of us recognition. It has not yet received, so far as we are advised, such recognition of its parent Grand Lodges, and I deem it advisable to wait further developments before we comply with their desire.

GRAND LODGE OF DAKOTA.

In May last I received a petition from Shilo Lodge, 105, at Fargo, embodying a resolution adopted by the lodge, asking permission to affiliate with the Grand Lodge of Dakota, they to retain their charter. The question of our G. . L. . relations with the G. . L. . of Dakota, having been presented to you at the last session and referred to a committee for investigation, and the

fided. All who participated in the swindle, or had knowledge of its character, and tacitly allowed their friends to be deceived, deserve censure.

Your committee, entertaining the view that all lottery schemes and gift enterprises are disreputable, immoral, unlawful and unmasonic, would respectfully recommend that the rules and regulations for the government of subordinate lodges be so amended as to discountenance and prohibit participation in all such schemes for the purpose of raising funds.

A large amount of business of local interest was transacted.

The Foreign Correspondence Committee merely reported the names of the Grand Lodges whose proceedings had been received.

M.·. W.·. Bellamy S. Sutton, Shelbyville, was elected Grand Master.

R.·. W.·. William H. Smythe, Indianapolis, re-elected Grand Secretary.

ILLINOIS, 1879.

The Fortieth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Illinois was held at Chicago, October 7th, 8th and 9th, 1879.

M.·. W.·. Theodore T. Gurney, G.·. M.·., presiding.

Six hundred and fifty-one lodges represented.

Seven hundred and fifty-nine on the roll.

From the address of the Grand Master, we note :

In all this we must not forget that "masonry is a law unto itself." Its perpetuity is dependent upon the force of its own influences. It never demands affiliation with other humanizing agencies. Its peculiar methods are its power, and when these are in the hands of brave and true men, we may rest content that it will occupy no unimportant place in the world's history. Neither is the lodge a reformatory institution. It is to fit a rough but sound Ashlar for the spiritual edifice, but it was never designed that this temple should be a house for decayed stones, to which no amount of manipulation could impart strength or polish.

At the last session of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, resolutions were adopted "interdicting masonic communication with the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and all individual masons owing allegiance thereto. The Grand Secretary of Scotland, in acknowledging the receipt of the information, says :

The Grand Lodge of Scotland was in active operation a century prior to the formation of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, and there is no reason to believe that its position will be at all affected by any interdict of the Grand Lodge of Illinois.

We very much doubt the wisdom of the policy of endeavoring to *coerce* the Continental Grand Lodges to adopt American ideas, at the same time we do not, by any means, approve of the action of the Grand Lodge of Scotland in the Quebec matter.

Bro. Joseph Robbins presented a truly exhaustive report on Foreign Correspondence, comprising two hundred and seventy-three closely printed pages of small type, and embracing a review of the proceedings of fifty-two Grand Lodges, prepared with his usual and unexcelled ability.

Quoting the Alabama resolution, relative to disciplining non-affiliates, he says :

It is our settled conviction, confirmed and strengthened by reflection and by every new discussion of this subject, that the assumption by lodge or Grand Lodge of the right to deprive a brother of any of those rights which belong to him as a mason—as distinguished from the rights which pertain to lodge membership—for no other offense than unaffiliation, not only does violence to the spirit of the institution, but is an act of flagrant usurpation from which evil, and only evil, can result; and that such a proposition as that contained in this resolution should not be entertained for a moment by any masonic body.

Last year we quoted from Bro. Robbins on the subject of “prayer,” ante we quoted from Bro. Singleton. We quote from Bro. Robbins again, among other reasons, because we believe that he is right :

If, under the guise of praying to God, all the brethren are to be permitted to air their varying notions, not only about God, but about his plan of salvation, what is there left to make masonry a centre of union, or to distinguish it from the numberless associations that have been wrecked upon the rock of theological discord?

If, in the matter of prayer, a brother may depart from the plan of masonry, because he conscientiously believes that he ought to, why should he not in other matters as well? It is well known that there are many who as conscientiously believe that it is absolutely essential to right action in any direction, that the individual shall have been transformed by redeeming

grace. Do we "force" their consciences by denying that the open lodge is the place for them to enforce their views upon those who differ, by preaching and exhortation? We do not believe that the most strenuous advocates for tolerating sectarian assumptions in masonic prayers, would defend undisguised proselyting by hortatory preaching in the lodge. Most certainly we should not regard their failure to defend it as indicating any lack of charity. Our view of the subject is, that when called upon in the work of masonry, whether to pray, to talk, or to do, the prayer, the speech, the act, should be simply masonic.

But we do not concur in "The plea of toleration has no place in masonry. The word is not in its vocabulary."

Is the masonic definition of the word "charity" confined to relief of the distressed?

Commenting upon the report of an Iowa committee, relative to Foreign Correspondence reports, he says:

Not a year passes that does not see some of the propositions that were supposed long ago to to have received their quietus, cropping out anew in some one or another Grand Lodge, to be dealt with by a new generation—for the membership of Grand Lodges changes largely every year, and the great bulk of it changes every two or three years. Let some member of considerable ability, but scanty reading, get hold of one of these crochets, and the chances are that he may lead his Grand Lodge into some folly that would have been cheaply escaped at the cost of a report on correspondence. It may be, and doubtless is true, that comparatively few of the members of the Grand Lodge, all of whom have an opportunity to read them, do read these reports, and fewer still study them. But a few do read them, and they are those who shape the legislation of Grand Lodges, and for this reason we believe that no-money is better or more economically expended than that paid for their production. Their preparation cannot fail to free at least one mason in every Grand Lodge from the provincial narrowness which belongs to those who never look beyond their own doors, and though it should give each of them but one such, it would be worth the cost.

Minnesota receives a somewhat lengthy notice, and in all but that relating to the Dakota matter evidences a kindly feeling. After quoting from the address of Past Grand Master Durant, he indulges in the following criticism:

It is either a significant fact or a queer coincidence, that of all the Grand Lodges in this country, the only one having no official knowledge of the existence of the Grand Lodge of Dakota, now four years old, is the one

which, alone, has lodges still of its obedience in that territory. If Minnesota has been ignorant of the existence of the Grand Lodge of Dakota all these years, it is an ignorance that is inexcusable. The Grand Lodge was organized in 1875, and was very generally recognized by the Grand Lodges of this country during that year and the year following. Illinois extended recognition in 1875. The proceedings of these Grand Lodges undoubtedly passed under the notice of the masonic authorities of Minnesota, and they must have been aware, from evidence under the seal of a score of Grand Lodges, that a Grand Lodge existed in Dakota, generally recognized as having rightful jurisdiction throughout that territory. This evidence would have been so far sufficient—even in the absence of an official notice from the Grand Lodge of Dakota itself—to a Grand Lodge solicitous not to be a trespasser upon the rightful domain of another, to have induced such an investigation as would not have forced from it the confession that it was powerless to act intelligently. In the light of its professed ignorance, the fact that the resolution adopted by the Grand Lodge of Minnesota contains no qualifying clause to meet the possible existence of a Grand Lodge in Dakota, having rightful jurisdiction therein, is inexplicable, unless Minnesota has determined to defy the well-settled law of exclusive Grand Lodge sovereignty and jurisdiction, and really wishes to challenge the forbearance of her sister Grand Lodges in this country.

It is a principle that has been acted upon by Grand Lodges in this country since the promulgation of the American doctrine of Grand Lodge sovereignty, that each and every Grand Lodge has concurrent jurisdiction in unoccupied territory; that is to say, that any Grand Lodge has the right to establish lodges in a State, territory, province, kingdom or country in which no Grand Lodge has an existence. Recognition of the formation of a Grand Lodge in such State, territory, &c., is simply a formal declaration of surrender to it of the rights of the recognizing Grand Lodge in such territory.

Where *all* the lodges working in such territory unite in the formation of a Grand Lodge, it then comes into possession of exclusive jurisdiction, because the combined lodges had jurisdiction over the whole territory. But when less than the *whole number* of lodges unite to form a Grand Lodge, said Grand Lodge has, and can only have, jurisdiction over such territory as was possessed by the lodges that united in its formation, and there is *no law or custom* which recognizes the right of such lodges, or Grand Lodge formed by them, to take from or encroach upon the chartered rights of bodies failing to join with them.

The American doctrine of exclusive jurisdiction does not apply in such cases, and has never been claimed, except in this Dakota matter.

In America it is conceded that the jurisdiction of a lodge extends on all sides, half way to the next lodge.

The jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Dakota is confined to the territory belonging to the lodges uniting in its formation, and yet Minnesota has refused to organize new lodges within the territory belonging to the lodges of its obedience in Dakota.

Bro. Robbins' insinuated threat partakes of the aggressive, which has characterized the publications of the Grand Lodge of Dakota from its formation. He says :

Is inexplicable, unless Minnesota has determined to defy the well-settled law of exclusive Grand Lodge sovereignty and jurisdiction, and really wishes to challenge the forbearance of her sister Grand Lodges in this country.

Minnesota does, and ever has, recognized "the well-settled law of exclusive Grand Lodge sovereignty and jurisdiction," and is not to be driven from its position by threats, even though they should emanate from the second largest Grand Lodge in America.

Minnesota made common cause with New York and Louisiana when those jurisdictions were invaded, and holds herself ready to do the like with any other "well-settled jurisdiction."

There is a slight difference between attempting to steal the property of another or merely holding on to your own.

There is something more necessary to give a body the status of a Grand Lodge than merely for a convention to declare itself a Grand Lodge. There must be a settled boundary, which is not the case with Dakota. The question of a division of the territory is before congress. The Dakota delegate to that body has anticipated, at each session, that a division would be made before the close.

The question would, doubtless, have, long ere this, been settled but for the want of harmony among the people as to the boundary lines, and as to whether the now Territory of Dakota should be cut up into two or three territories.

In either case the lodges chartered by the Grand Lodge of

Minnesota would be in a new territory, and such territory would be open to any Grand Lodge.

If Minnesota should establish a lodge in Illinois, Iowa, Montana, &c., or hold masonic intercourse with any lodge established by any power within their limits, she would be violating the American law, and deserve condemnation. Why? Because those lodges are "well-settled jurisdictions," with defined and unquestioned jurisdiction.

Force and coercion has no place in masonry. No mason is bound to sacrifice his individual rights, pecuniary interests or opinions at the bidding of one or any number of masons, and what is true of individuals is also true of masons aggregated into a lodge.

A charter once granted by competent authority is perpetual, so long as the terms upon which it was granted are complied with, and it cannot be interfered with, except for malfeasance.

Minnesota, as she had a perfect right to do, established lodges in Dakota, an unoccupied territory, the first located in all that vast region of country. Each lodge thus established was vested by charter with certain inalienable rights of which they could not be deprived, not even by the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, so long as they complied with the terms of the charter; subject to the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, no other power on earth has the right to interfere with them.

When a Grand Body is organized in territory where none before existed, the masonic bodies in that territory have the right—such has been the custom in this country—to exercise their discretion as to forming part of the new body or not; there can be no coercion in the matter; of this fact there are numerous examples.

Rumor said that a Grand Lodge had been organized in Dakota. A delegate from one of our lodges in that territory stated, in his place in the Grand Lodge, that he knew nothing of it, and that not even rumor said that such a matter was in contemplation.

When the then Grand Master of Minnesota received a letter from the Grand Master of Dakota giving the information that a Grand Lodge had been organized—notwithstanding its dictatorial style and evidenced ignorance of custom and courtesy—he visited the lodges in the district and informed them that a Grand Lodge

had been formed in Dakota, and that their affiliation was desired. The unanimous voice of the lodges was to decline; among the reasons assigned was that they could have no representation. In order to reach Sioux City, the seat of the Grand Lodge of Dakota, the only route was through St. Paul, and that when they reached that point they were yet not half way, and that the expenses of a delegate would aggregate nearly the income of the lodge, and that if they were obliged to affiliate with the Grand Lodge of Dakota, it would be equivalent to a disbandment of the lodge.

They could have no masonic intercourse except by mail, and if it was true that an invitation had been extended to participate in the formation of the Grand Lodge, it proved that *any* intercourse was problematical.

The Grand Master informed them that they had the right to consult their masonic and pecuniary interest; that he should not attempt to coerce them; and that the Grand Lodge of Minnesota would continue its parental care so long as it was their desire, but that they had the undoubted right to change their affiliation whenever they desired.

Three applications for dispensations were afterwards presented to establish new lodges, but declined, that there might not be even the semblance of interference.

The letters of the Grand Master of Dakota were so assumptive, dictatorial, really insulting, and not sustained by facts, that Grand Master Braden declined further correspondence; had he not done so, the resolutions adopted and promulgated by the Grand Lodge of Dakota, even before the meeting of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, put it out of his power, with a due regard of his own dignity and that of his Grand Lodge, to afford any further notice.

Minnesota has pursued the even tenor of her way; has treated the assumptive, dictatorial, aggressive manner with that silent—silence which she thought they were entitled too, and has not thought proper even to notice statements, which are patent to the world, are not borne out by facts.

Minnesota would have extended a hearty welcome to the Grand Lodge of Dakota among the sisterhood of Grand Lodges, but she herself put it out of her power to do so.

Minnesota has no pecuniary interests at stake; she receives no

revenue from her lodges in Dakota, but declines to withdraw charters from her lodges in defiance of her own constitution.

We have devoted more space than we intended to this matter, or would have done, but that Bro. Robbins—for whom we have a high respect—who, as the champion of the Grand Lodge of Dakota, has proceeded upon the assumption that Minnesota has violated some law, and threatens her with the dire consequences thereof unless she adopts his theories.

We are compelled to omit many passages in Bro. Robbins' really excellent report that we had marked owing to the space occupied with this Dakota matter, and thus depriving our readers of many of the good things with which it abounds. Now, Bro. Robbins, don't you wish you had'nt.

M. W. Theodore T. Gurney, Chicago, Grand Master.

R. W. John F. Burrill, Springfield, Grand Secretary—were each re-elected.

Bro. Joseph Robbins, Quincy, Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

IOWA, 1879.

The Thirty-sixth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Iowa was held at Dubuque, June 3rd, 4th and 5th, 1879.

M. W. Jeremiah W. Wilson, G. M., presiding.

Two hundred and fifty-two lodges represented.

Three hundred and eighty-two on the roll.

Nine dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

Under the head of "Locality of Membership," the Grand Master reports :

I received, February 24th, 1878, a communication from Bro. C. W. Jones, who resides at Emmet, Emmet county, in this State. He holds a dimit from Twilight Lodge, No. 329, located at Spirit Lake, and has made application to join Good Faith Lodge, No. 90, at Jackson, Jackson county, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, and is informed that, in order to enable him to join that lodge, or a lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, he must first obtain a dispensation from the Grand Master of this State, and asking me for such dispensation.

The parties furnishing the information were in error. There

is nothing in the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota that will sustain the position, nor yet has there ever been a ruling or decision of the Grand Masters of the kind ; on the contrary, the position of Minnesota ever has been, that that was one of the questions beyond the prerogatives of the Grand Master or of the Grand Lodge.

Why not ask for permission to marry, or to buy a pound of coffee at some particular store, or to join some particular church of some particular denomination, or to change residence? the one is no more preposterous than the other.

We are surprised that a Grand Master should think the question worthy the prominence of incorporating it in an address to a Grand Lodge.

There is evidently a "screw loose" somewhere in Iowa.

Printed copies of a new constitution were distributed to the delegates at the session of 1878, to the end that final action should be had at the session of 1879. The Grand Master says that some one, within thirty days preceding, sent out, with a circular letter to the Masters of lodges, another constitution.

In the afternoon of the first day's session a resolution was offered requesting a named brother, a P. G. Master, to furnish the Grand Lodge with the *original manuscript* of the "unauthorized" constitution, which was laid on the table. The next day the new—authorized—constitution came up for action, when, on motion, the consideration thereof was indefinitely postponed. Who is ahead? The Grand Secretary was directed to print five hundred copies of the constitution as it is.

Verily, the new constitution side has a hard time of it; four or five years trial and nothing accomplished.

From the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, we select :

Query.—A member of a lodge, being absent, makes his objections to the reception of a petitioner for the degrees known to the Master in writing; what is the Master's duty?

Answer.—When the committee report on the candidate, the Master should notify the lodge that objections are filed with him, and that they must be respected.

* * * * *

As to "suitable proficiency for advancement," the committee hold that

such examination of the candidate as shall be satisfactory to every member present, shall be made in open lodge. The examination must disclose suitable proficiency, of which the members must judge. It would not be reasonable to rule that the whole of the monitorial illustrations should be memorized.

Query.—Should the annual decisions of the Grand Master, made in reference to particular lodges and special cases, be published, and made obligatory upon all other lodges as general masonic law?

Answer.—The committee hold that all such decisions and holdings as are approved by the Grand Lodge are binding, and should be published for information.

In the matter of general correspondence with the lodges on masonic subjects, by masons not holding official positions that justify such action, the committee hold the practice worthy of severe animadversion. Such conduct is liable to stir up discord, to foster discontent, and, by placing wrong designs on the trestle-board, to bring confusion to the craft. While the motive in such cases may not be altogether bad, and may arise from nothing worse than a selfish ambition or undue egotism, yet the results are liable to be such as to merit severe condemnation, and the practice should be unqualifiedly prohibited by the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge of Iowa having only \$11,550.00 invested in U. S. bonds, and as much more surplus, concluded to curtail expenses, and resolved to do away with reports on Foreign Correspondence.

Since writing the foregoing we have received notice of the death of P. . G. . M. . C. K. Peck, which occurred very suddenly at Chicago, the second day of December.

Bro. Peck was a frequent visitor to Minnesota, looking after his large business relations; hence, was well and favorably known to a large number of our citizens.

His home was at Keokuk. The masonic bodies at that place held a Lodge of Sorrow in his memory, on the evening of December 29th; some fifteen made addresses, and a large number of communications read, all going to show the love and esteem with which he was regarded by his masonic associates.

The writer knew Bro. Peck for many, many years, and had the honor to introduce him to the degrees of the A. . and A. . S. . R. . in the long ago.

M. . W. . Albert C. Abbott, Marshalltown, was elected Grand Master.

And, of course—because in all Iowa they could not fill his place—R. W. Theodore S. Parvin, Iowa City, re-elected Grand Secretary.

IDAHO, 1878.

The Eleventh Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Idaho was held at Boise City, September 10th, 11th, 12th and 13th, 1878.

M. W. E. A. Stevenson, G. M., presiding.

Nine lodges represented.

Twelve on the roll.

We quote from the address of the Grand Master :

If I did not know how strongly men become attached to masonry, and how zealously they labor for its promotion, I should be surprised to see so many representatives of the subordinate lodges present to day. Many of you have traveled long journeys of hundreds of miles, over rugged and almost impassable mountains, spending your money in attending the Grand Lodge, instead of employing your time at home at your usual vocations. In the all absorbing rush after money at the present day, religious and moral institutions are neglected; patriotism has become almost an empty sound; men seek public places merely to fill their pockets; and governments are converted into new combinations to gather money from the people to distribute to partisan favorites. Palaces abounding in every luxury fill the imaginations of men; and silks and diamonds, and splendid equipages, dazzle the visions of women. But we have come here to-day because we feel that there are jewels of greater value, and more imperishable than gold or silver, or bank notes. You are laboring for the promotion of an institution that has lived to see the hoardings of the miser scattered to the winds, the places of the rich to crumble into dust, and the wealth of empires to perish.

Transactions of local interest.

Bro. A. Heed presented a brief report on Foreign Correspondence—Minnesota is noticed—ending with a compilation of decisions from the various proceedings received—very useful.

M. W. E. A. Stevenson, Idaho City, Grand Master.

R. W. Charles Himrod, Boise City, Grand Secretary—were each re-elected.

1879.

The Twelfth Annual Communication was also held at Boise City, September 9th, 10th and 11th, 1879.

M. W. E. A. Stevenson, G. M., presiding.

Eight lodges represented.

Relative to funerals, the G. M. reports a decision ; we copy :

Question.—A masonic lodge occupies a hall in joint occupancy with other societies. Should a mason die who also belongs to these other societies, could these societies participate and take part in a masonic funeral?

Answer.—No. The Master of a lodge having received notice of a Master-Mason's death, and of his request to be interred with the ceremonies of masonry, fixes the day and hour for the funeral, and issues his command to summon the members who live in the vicinity (and are not too distant) to attend. A masonic burial is not a ceremony distinct and disconnected from the other ceremonies of masonry ; it is the type of which the lodge ceremonial in the third degree is emblematical. The procession, the hymn, the prayer, the position at the grave, the casting of the evergreen, the Grand Honors, all these, though seemingly unmeaning and public, can be understood as to their essential nature and meaning by Master Masons only. Now if any other societies have adopted these ancient ceremonies in whole or in part, they can only be to them unmeaning forms. On the burial of the deceased brother the lodge is at labor, and must have absolute control ; and while exercising this control no non-masonic society can be permitted to participate.

Transactions of local interest.

No report on Foreign Correspondence.

M. W. Charles Himrod, Grand Master.

R. W. L. F. Cartee, Grand Secretary.

Bro. John A. Post, Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee—each of Boise City.

INDIAN TERRITORY, 1878.

The Fourth Annual Communication was held at McAlester, November 5th and 6th, 1878.

M. W. J. S. Murrow, G. M., presiding.

Nine lodges represented.

Eleven on the roll.

The address of the Grand Master is a very creditable document, much in advance of its predecessors.

He reports some curious cases, the result of laxity on the part of one or two lodges, but as the error was discovered and, to the best of their ability, rectified, we will not repeat.

We notice one—to us—curious decision; that a petition cannot be withdrawn, but must go to ballot. We supposed the usage to be, that a petition could be withdrawn, but only after a *favorable* report by the committee.

But another is of our way of thinking exactly, and we wish that all the Grand Masters entertained the same views and would give them expression. We quote :

5th. The lodge would also be pleased to have your opinion and decision with reference to the use, by members of the fraternity, of a book “represented to be a key to masonic ceremonies.”

Answer.—My feelings against the use of all “helps” or “keys,” &c., so called by officers or members, or apprentices, for the purpose of learning the esoteric lessons of Freemasonry, are so intensely deep and decided that I cannot express my condemnation in language sufficiently strong. When I remember my O. O. B. O., and also the truth that “the receiver is as bad as the thief,” I feel that if I should ever become so degraded as to violate my O. O. B. O. in the use of such vile, unsafe and untrue means, I would thank some brother to inflict the penalty. I know of but one even plausible reason why a mason should use these so-called “helps,” and that is the lack of brains. Any man with a thimble-full of brains should scorn to use such “helps”—“broken sticks,” though, is a more correct definition.

My decision is emphatically against such “use,” or rather “abuse,” and as long as I am Grand Master I will sustain any W. O. M. O. in punishing any member guilty of such unmasonic conduct.

All the lodges in Indian Territory now acknowledge allegiance to the Grand Lodge. Alpha Lodge, holding a warrant from the Grand Lodge of Kansas, and sustained by that Grand Lodge, refused to affiliate until within the past year.

In April, a special communication of the Grand Lodge was held in the Creek Nation, and the corner stone of the capitol building was laid “according to masonic custom.”

On invitation, the Grand Lodge devoted half a day to the inspection of the Osage mines.

We were not very favorably impressed with former proceedings of the Grand Lodge; it now appears that the right parties are coming to the front. We select from the report of the Committee on Education:

That masons are lovers of learning in general, and should manifest a lively interest in behalf of the children of their deceased brothers in all quarters of the civilized world, and make efforts for, give money, build and endow institutions of learning where they can acquire an education, is perfectly in accord with our views and expectations.

That it is our duty, here in the Indian Territory, to do all we can to place within the reach of every son and daughter—of suitable age—of our deceased brothers' orphan children, the opportunity of acquiring a good English education, no one will probably deny.

That there are already in existence, all over our country, good schools where they might acquire an education if they were properly assisted all must admit.

Therefore, we would respectfully suggest the passage of the following resolution:

Resolved, By the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory, That it shall be the duty of the Worshipful Masters and Wardens of each subordinate lodge in this jurisdiction, to find out the number and names of such children as may be within the jurisdiction of each of them, and furnish them the means of acquiring such education, by paying the tuition in whole or in part, and furnishing them the necessary books, &c.

That is a commendable move, particularly in that country, and if the Grand Lodge follows it up by *acts*, masonry will wield an immense influence in developing the moral and social advances of the people.

A well written and very readable report on Foreign Correspondence was presented and *adopted*, partly prepared by the Past Grand Secretary, who had left the jurisdiction, and the remainder by Bro. H. F. Buckner.

Reading the proceedings before us, and the report on Foreign Correspondence, has given us a much more favorable opinion of this Grand Lodge. We had entertained an idea that the church was running the Grand Lodge, or the Grand Lodge the church.

By what authority does a Grand Lodge decide anyone to be a *Christian* gentleman, and issue a certificate under seal so certifying?

Masonry does not require any eulogies from the pulpit, nor yet are the interests of the church advanced, by claiming that masonry is its handmaid.

We say to the Grand Lodge of Indian Territory, God speed you in your efforts for education, &c.

M.: W.: J. S. Murrow, re-elected Grand Master.

R.: W.: W. A. McBride elected Grand Secretary—both of
•A-tok-a.

KENTUCKY, 1878.

The Seventy-ninth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky was held at Louisville, October 22nd, 23rd, 24th and 25th, 1878.

M.: W.: Campbell H. Johnson, G.: M.: presiding.

Four hundred and twenty-nine lodges represented.

Six hundred and four on the roll.

Three dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

Among the decisions reported, we note :

1. The Grand Master has the power to arrest the charter of any subordinate lodge in his jurisdiction when he is convinced that the good of masonry demands it.

2. A charter can only be revoked by the Grand Lodge granting it.

3. The Grand Lodge has the right to levy a tax on subordinate lodges, or individual masons living in its jurisdiction.

4. A subordinate lodge has no right to sell or otherwise dispose of its effects when it has in view the surrender of its charter, or believes that their charter will be arrested.

5. Any Master Mason in good standing can prefer charges against an offender, whether he is a member of the same lodge or not.

6. It is not necessary for a lodge to have its by-laws printed to make them binding.

* * * * *

20. A lodge has the right to bury a non-affiliated mason if they elect to do so.

* * * * *

24. In case a member in good standing, and clear of the books, is granted a dimit, and the Secretary fails to make record of said action, the brother

is as clearly a dimitted mason as if it was fully recorded and he in possession of his certificate of dimit. He can not be held responsible for, a neglect of duty by the Secretary.

29. A lodge does not lose its penal jurisdiction over a brother by granting him a dimit.

38. In case of a petition from a brother who hails from another jurisdiction, and claims that his lodge has ceased to exist, his petition can be received and acted upon, provided the lodge he petitions is satisfied that the lodge once existed, and the brother was in good standing at the time his lodge ceased to exist.

41. Do not think it right or advisable to dedicate a rented hall to masonic purposes.

42. The rejection of an applicant for membership does not affect the masonic standing of the applicant. His certificate of dimit is his property, and should be returned to him if rejected.

43. The Master has a right to refuse to confer the degrees on a candidate, even after he has been elected to receive them, for reasons by him deemed sufficient.

47. The violation of the chastity of a female is a masonic offense, and should be punished as such. An offense against masonry is a violation of the laws of God or of the country; therefore, we are not only bound to respect those within the pale, but all.

51. A masonic lodge can not turn out in public procession as a lodge, except on one of the festival days, or at the funeral of a Master Mason, except by dispensation.

Of the duties of Grand Representative, he says :

1st. To visit at all regular meetings of the Grand Lodge to which he is accredited; interchange published proceedings, and deposit, with the Grand Secretary, copies of all official documents emanating from the appointing power.

2nd. To acquaint himself thoroughly with the Constitution, Code of Jurisprudence, and Forms of Work in vogue in the Grand Lodge which he represents, that he may be able to communicate them, when desirable, to the Grand Lodge to which he is accredited.

3rd. To welcome, vouch for, and introduce worthy masons from the jurisdiction which he represents; to detect impostors, if any, and see to the judicious distribution of charity when demanded.

4th. To be in attendance on all the meetings of the Grand Lodge to which he is accredited; and, in all questions arising in which the Grand Lodge he represents is interested, to act as their counsel and for their interests, and see that all documents so intended are properly transmitted.

5th. To strengthen the golden chain of pure attachment between the Grand Lodges, encourage mutual customs and good-will and give due warning of perils that may threaten both.

We would be pleased to see the foregoing adopted by the Grand Lodges, and change their representatives until the law was complied with.

The widow and orphans' home, notwithstanding the many difficulties encountered, has finally been completed, and was formally dedicated during the session of the Grand Lodge; the ceremonies were imposing. Eloquent addresses were delivered by the G. . M. ., Bro. Gov. McCreary, W. C. P. Breckinridge, H. A. M. Henderson, and P. . G. . M. . Fitch, closing with the following ode by Bro. Rob. Morris:

Ended now the mason's labors,
Past the travel and the toil;
Gather in, ye loving neighbors,
Share the corn, the wine, the oil.

Brethren, now, of each degree,
Come in harmony and glee;

Happy meeting,
Gentle greeting—

'Tis the joy of masonry.

Spirits of the blest departed,
As on earthly ways they roam,
Where are met the faithful hearted,
They to share our labors come;
Though their forms we can not see,
They are here with you and me.

Happy meeting,
Gentle greeting—

'Tis the joy of masonry.

Love unites us with its cement;
 Truth inspires the mason's breast;
 Ever faithful, ever clement,
 Thus our doctrines we attest.
 Thus we come, of each degree—
 Come in harmony and glee;
 Happy meeting,
 Gentle greeting—
 'Tis the joy of masonry.

A lodge at Beyrout, Syria, holding a warrant from the Grand Orient of France, desiring to dissolve its connection with that body, applied to the Grand Lodge of Kentucky to be taken under its wing, by granting a charter.

The non-intercourse with the Grand Orient of France, proclaimed by the American Grand Lodges, begins to have its effect.

Thousands of masons in this country are personally acquainted with "Rob. Morris"—a largely increased number have seen him—he has been everywhere—and still more know of him through his writings; well, the report on Foreign Correspondence is written by Bro. Rob. Morris. Commencing in 1853, for five successive years he wrote the reports on Foreign Correspondence, since then he has devoted much time to masonic literature. Letters from home and abroad, poetic effusions, scraps, history, &c., have been widely read and commented upon.

After more than twenty years he again resumes his old place as a reporter. His hair may be shorter and not so much of it, and its color changed; his eye may be dim; but his hand has not lost any of its motion, or his brain its versatility. He resumes his place as if he had, in all these twenty years, merely gone out for a week.

We have just been informed that there is a large advance in printing paper; such being the case, we dare not commence making extracts from the report, the printing bill would be too heavy, and our Grand Lodge might possibly—not having as much money—patern after Iowa, and do away with reports in the future.

M. W. Thomas S. Pettit, Owensboro, was elected Grand Master.

R. W. Hiram Bassett, Millersburg, re-elected Grand Secretary.

KANSAS 1878.

The Twenty-third Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Kansas was held at Atchison, October 16th and 17th, 1878.

M.·. W.·. John Guthrie, G.·. M.·., presiding.

Ninety lodges represented.

One hundred and seventy-four on the roll.

Six dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

We present from the address of the Grand Master, under the head of Masonic Elections :

I desire to call your attention to one evil that too often enters into the government of masonic bodies, both supreme and subordinate, a disposition of well meaning but ambitious brethren to enter into combinations to secure rank and preferment. It may be pardonable for the citizen to adopt the usual methods of politicians as a means to securing place and emoluments in the government of the State, but such methods are reprehensible in the highest degree in a masonic lodge.

The highest trust committed to you as the representative of our order in this jurisdiction, is the choice of Grand Officers for the ensuing year. These officers should be chosen for their meritorious worth, and the fact that a brother wishes the post of honor, or that he resides in some supposed favorable locality, should not influence a single vote. I have been impressed with the conviction that it was always a safe rule in choosing officers, to vote against masonic politicians. The brethren of a lodge, unembarrassed by the importunities of ambitious candidates, will usually make a wise choice in the selection of officers; and the brother who, by his industry, serves the craft well and faithfully will finally secure his reward. The great principles of our order, and the laws laid down in our Ancient Constitutions in regard to these practices, are so well understood by the older and more experienced members of the craft, that there is need only of calling your attention to them to be appreciated and faithfully practiced by our brethren.

Alpha Lodge, holding a warrant from the Grand Lodge of Kansas, is located in the Indian Territory; it was requested to unite in the organization of a Grand Lodge in that territory but declined; some years subsequent it changed its views. The Grand Master says :

There is no longer any doubt that the relations existing between Alpha

Lodge and the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory are fraternal, and that they desire to unite their fortunes. The Worshipful Master signified to me the willingness and desire of his lodge to be represented at the communication of the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory this fall, if it met my approval. I advised him that his lodge could do so if it suited their pleasure, and expressing my opinion that, sooner or later, our Grand Lodge would recognize the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory; but, that if Alpha Lodge choose to remain with us, that she had the lawful right to do so; notwithstanding, we might recognize the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory.

A party was charged with "uttering a miserable slander against the good name of the widow of a Master Mason" and expelled; he appealed. The Committee on Grievances reported:

The defendant, by innuendo and insinuation, sets up a defence, which in itself indicates an entire want of that chivalric manhood which ought to characterize all true masons, and which, if true, is a greater offence against masonic law than that with which he stood charged.

If the charges are true, he is surely guilty; and if his defense is true, he is still more guilty. Your committee therefore recommend that the finding and sentence of expulsion from masonry against said Joseph M. Young be approved and confirmed.

Good. Just exactly right.

In another case a member of a lodge was charged with crime and arrested. While in confinement, before the trial, the Junior Warden, who was also prosecuting attorney for the county, preferred charges in the lodge; a continuance was applied for on the ground that the party was in confinement and not able to be present, which the lodge refused, and he was expelled; subsequently he was acquitted by a jury. Appeal was taken to the Grand Lodge. The committee recommended that the finding and sentence of the lodge be set aside, and the case remanded to the lodge for further action.

Again right. "Go slow" is a most excellent adage, and would save a vast amount of wrong doing in lodges as well as in the profane world.

The Grand Lodge formally, by resolution, recognized the Grand Lodge of Indian Territory.

A report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing a review of

the proceedings of fifty-two Grand Lodges, was presented by Bro. J. H. Brown. Minnesota receives a kind and fraternal notice. A perusal of this confirms our opinion, as expressed last year, of which Bro. Brown says :

Bro. Pierson, aren't you going a little too far? If not, we certainly feel like raising our hat and humbly bowing.

No. We were taught that justice is one of the cardinal virtues.

M.: W.: Edwin D. Hillyer, Valley Falls, was elected Grand Master.

R.: W.: John H. Brown, Wyandotte, re-elected Grand Secretary, and is also Chairman Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

LOUISIANA, 1879.

The Sixty-seventh Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana was held at New Orleans, February 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th and 14th, 1879.

M.: W.: Samuel J. Powell, G.: M.:, presiding.

Sixty-four lodges represented.

Two hundred and twenty-five on the roll.

One dispensation for a new lodge issued during the year.

Among the decisions reported we note :

4th. That lodges are not allowed to solicit aid to build lodge halls, or for any other purpose, from other jurisdictions, without the approval of the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master; they are, however, at liberty to do so within our own jurisdiction without such permission; but that it should not be resorted to except in cases of great necessity.

5th. That a mason's widow or daughter who marries a profane, deprives herself of all the benefits of masonry as a right.

From the report of the Committee on Masonic Law and Jurisprudence, we select :

8. Masonic bodies may appear in regalia and perform burial and other public masonic ceremonies, but such ceremonies must be under their exclusive control, and entirely conducted by them. They must preserve the unity and exclusiveness of their organization throughout. Other secret associations may join in the general procession, but they must maintain

their separate and distinct organization, and cannot be permitted to take any part in the ceremonies further than marching in the general procession as distinct bodies.

Masonic bodies are prohibited from taking part in burial or other ceremonies with other secret associations, nor are they allowed to be present as masonic bodies when such ceremonies are conducted by other secret societies.

The Grand Lodge is in some pecuniary difficulty, and at the previous annual communication levied a *per capita* assessment on the lodges; some paid, others refused; questioning the power of the Grand Lodge to levy an assessment. The question was referred to the Judiciary Committee, who unanimously sustained the authority of the Grand Lodge. The report was adopted—close vote—then divers motions were made to repeal the levy, the Grand Lodge refused, and then it didn't refuse, and then—well we can't tell what was the final result.

A very able and interesting report on Foreign Correspondence was again presented by Bro. G. H. Braughn.

Of our late Grand Master Braden, he says:

The deceased Grand Master was an able, learned and conservative mason, and his untimely death is to be deplored, not alone by Minnesota, but by the masons of America. In our last report we had occasion to express our admiration for the deceased, little, then, thinking how soon we would be called upon to mourn his loss.

* * * * *

“Those whom the gods love die young.” Bro. Braden was only 42.

Our brethren in Louisiana having suffered from infringement, are very sensitive on the jurisdictional question.

The exclusive jurisdiction doctrine does not, and cannot, apply until it is obtained. Setting up a claim does not give jurisdiction.

Exclusive jurisdiction over a certain amount of territory is not an essential necessary to the organization of a Grand Lodge.

Continental Grand Lodges manage to exist even without the American doctrine. We do not hear of any wrangling, you have got certain moneys that we want.

Exclusive jurisdiction is not obtained until *all* the parties having rights in the territory surrender those rights, and there is no law, —where lies the power to make such law?—custom or usage that

compels parties to surrender their masonic rights. Condemnation of property to obtain right of way is not known in masonry.

From beginning to end, masonry recognizes only voluntary action. There can be no infringement of jurisdiction until it is obtained.

Now, as to Dakota, Minnesota has neither invaded or infringed; she has simply, not formally, surrendered her rights; she has simply said to her lodges go or stay as you please. When you see proper to go, Minnesota will formally surrender all rights in the premises, and recognize, as far as she is concerned, Dakota's exclusive jurisdiction.

Dakota meets in June, Minnesota in January. At the meeting of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, after the organization of that of Dakota, the then Grand Master spoke of a rumor. No information of any kind beyond rumor was had. A delegate from Dakota said that his lodge knew nothing of it; that they had not even heard the rumor. It was somewhat annoying to afterwards find out that a Grand Lodge had been organized; that other Grand Lodges had been notified, and that lodges organized by Minnesota—the oldest in the territory—had received no notification. Next, Grand Master Braden received a letter from the Grand Master of Dakota—the world can judge of its tone—proposing that the lodges holding warrants from Minnesota *should surrender their charters, and take from him a dispensation subject to the future action of his Grand Lodge!* It was in view of that proposition that the reporter said, “when they get older they will know more.”

Somewhat piqued at the apparent fact that the Iowa lodges had organized a Grand Lodge without consultation or notice to the Minnesota lodges in the territory, and also with the terms and style of the letter of the Grand Master of Dakota, yet Bro. Braden—his health in such condition that he ought not to have left home—visited the lodges, explaining that a Grand Lodge had been formed, &c.

A glance at a map will show the vast space of country covered by the Territory of Dakota. There was but very little intercourse between the northern and southern portion of the territory, and what there was, was conducted through St. Paul. The interests of the people were as dissimilar as those of Louisiana and Ohio.

The development of the northern part of the territory followed the Northern Pacific Railroad; that of the southern, the Missouri River. So antagonistic are the interests of the two sections, that it was early determined that a division of the territory was necessary. The questions as to dividing line, and the erection of a State in the southern section, has retarded the settlement of the question, and yet the people have anticipated that at each recurring session of congress it would be settled.

One proposition is patent, the dividing line, under any circumstances, would separate the northern lodges from those that organized the Grand Lodge.

Such being the condition, the lodges, considering their pecuniary and masonic interests, unanimously declined to—at the time—withdraw their affiliation with the Grand Lodge of Minnesota. Grand Master Braden had done all that he could do in the premises, even more than could be expected of him.

The Grand Master of Dakota accused Grand Master Braden with an exhibition of unfraternal feeling, &c.; of course correspondence ceased.

At the June session of the Grand Lodge of Dakota the Grand Master reported part of the correspondence; taking care *not* to report that he had required of the Minnesota lodges to surrender their charters and receive dispensations from him, subject to the future action of the Grand Lodge. At this same session a preamble and resolutions were adopted, arraigning the Grand Lodge of Minnesota—and this, too, before the Grand Lodge of Minnesota had had a meeting—for violation of its jurisdiction, &c. Thus putting it out of the power of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota to pay any attention to the Grand Lodge of Dakota until its offensive and untrue aspersions were withdrawn; and perhaps operated to prevent Grand Master Braden from alluding to the matter when the Grand Lodge did meet. Dakota has persisted in pursuing the same course at each meeting since.

1st. Minnesota has not exhibited an unfriendly or unfraternal spirit towards the Grand Lodge of Dakota; on the contrary, the Grand Master, while sick, and at considerable risk, visited the lodges and counselled with them. We will not characterize the contrast, leaving it to the masonic world.

2nd. Minnesota has not interfered with or, in any manner, violated the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Dakota.

3rd. Minnesota upholds and sustains the American doctrine of exclusive jurisdiction, and disclaims ever, in the least, having differed from that position.

We think that Bro. Braughn will, after an examination, concede that the position of Minnesota is correct.

M. W. Edwin Marks, elected Grand Master.

R. W. J. C. Batcheldor re-elected Grand Secretary.

Bro. W. R. Whittaker, Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee—each of New Orleans.

MAINE, 1879.

The Sixtieth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was held at Portland, May 6th, 7th and 8th, 1879.

M. W. Edward P. Burnham, G. M., presiding.

One hundred and sixty-nine lodges represented.

One hundred and eighty-one on the roll.

Two dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

Proceedings mostly confined to routine business of local interest.

The report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing a review of the proceedings of fifty-one Grand Lodges—those of Minnesota included—was, as usual, presented by Bro. J. H. Drummond, and is of the character always presented by him—learned and exhaustive.

In reply to his criticism relative to the position of Minnesota and Dakota, we remark:

The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts *had* jurisdiction over all the lodges in the State when it announced the dogma—which has been tacitly accepted by all the American Grand Lodges—of exclusive jurisdiction. The two Grand Lodges formerly existing in the State had united, and all the lodges in the commonwealth—except the negro lodge—held authority from the united Grand Lodges of Massachusetts. The declaration was made while the scenes of the revolution were still visible, and the memories of its vicissitudes still fresh, and had its antitype in the declaration of independence. As the Grand Lodges in the States, where there

were two, united, each reiterated the declaration of independence, accompanied with the claim to concurrent jurisdiction in unoccupied territory, or territory where there was no Grand Lodge already existing. As new Grand Lodges were organized the principle was reiterated, and thus the dogma has become the fixed principle of the American Grand Lodges.

Minnesota fully and emphatically endorses the doctrine, and has proved it by legislation in the past.

Bro. Drummond "has no words to express his amazement at the action of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota" at the last session: possibly he may be more so when the proceedings of the present session reaches him.

With all due deference to our worthy brother, we must be permitted the remark that he jumps at conclusions. If our reading is correct, there is no analogy between the cases of Scotland and Quebec, and that of Minnesota and Dakota. Scotland provisionally recognized Quebec, afterwards withdrew the recognition, and then organized a lodge in the territory.

If Bro. Drummond will read our notes under the head of Louisiana—*anti*—he must acknowledge that there is not the remotest similarity in the two cases.

A few practical questions suggest themselves:

1. Is or is not a charter, when granted by competent authority, of perpetual duration?
2. Can a Grand Lodge deprive one of its subordinates of its charter unless it violates some one of the provisions of the constitution of the Grand Lodge?
3. Was there ever, in the history of masonry, a feature in a charter providing for its action as to change of allegiance?
4. Is there any power or authority—if so, where?—that can compel a legally warranted lodge to surrender its chartered rights?
5. Does the constitutions of a single Grand Lodge on this continent, or anywhere else, contain any provisions relative to the formation of a new Grand Lodge?
6. Have Grand Lodges concurrent jurisdiction in unoccupied territory?
7. Can a mason, a lodge or a Grand Lodge be deprived of masonic or pecuniary rights, unless by due process of law?

8. Does or does not lodge territorial jurisdiction extend half way, on all sides, to the next nearest lodge?

9. When two or more Grand Lodges have exercised their rights, and acquired territorial jurisdiction in unoccupied territory by the establishment of lodges, how or by what process can the lodges hailing from either side, by combination, obtain exclusive jurisdiction in the whole territory without the consent of the other? or further, without the assent of all having rights therein?

We put forth the foregoing questions as to general principles; some of them have been discussed and a general acceptance arrived at, others have not been, or, at least, have not been within the past generation.

When these general principles are settled—the majority idea wont do—then we may have some further enquiries to make applicable to a particular case.

Bro. Drummond copies the resolutions relative to dual membership adopted at the last session, and notes the curious position in which they placed some of our lodges. Never too old to learn. We are getting right on that question finally. See the final action of the Grand Lodge, present session.

M. W. Charles I. Collamore, Bangor, was elected Grand Master.

R. W. Ira Berry, Portland, re-elected Grand Secretary.

Bro. Josiah H. Drummond, Portland, Chairman Committee Foreign Correspondence.

MASSACHUSETTS, 1878.

The One Hundred and Forty-fifth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts was held at Boston, December 11th, 1878.

M. W. Charles A. Welch, G. M., presiding.

One hundred and sixty-one lodges represented.

Two hundred and twenty-one on the roll.

Two dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

We present an extract from the address of the Grand Master :

Another matter to which I wish to call the attention of the brethren, is the tendency lately manifested to publish in newspapers detailed reports of

A Semi-Annual Communication was held at Baltimore, May 13th and 14th, 1879.

The address of the Grand Master indicates that the financial matters of the Grand Lodge are steadily improving; the lowest round has apparently been reached, and the prospect is for the future, onward and upward.

A fair had been held under the auspices of the ladies, which netted a very handsome amount. A large number of brethren and masonic bodies which held stock in the Grand Lodge Hall have made donations of it to the Grand Lodge.

The following was adopted:

Resolved, That no lodge shall act on any petition for initiation unless the whole amount to be paid for the three degrees accompany the petition.

MICHIGAN, 1879.

The Thirty-fifth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Michigan was held at Jackson, January 28th and 29th, 1880.

M. W. John W. Finch, G. M., presiding.

Three hundred and thirty-two lodges represented.

Three hundred and forty-nine on the roll.

Three dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

Among the decisions reported, we note:

Question.—If, after a brother is made a mason, he becomes an atheist, has a lodge a right to expel him?

Answer.—A belief in deity is a fundamental principle of masonry. No atheist can be made a mason. If, after the building is erected, we remove the foundation stone, the building falls. He has already ceased to be a mason only in name, and should be expelled.

* * * * *

Question.—A brother applies to a lodge for the right of visitation, passes a satisfactory examination, and presents a dimit as evidence of his masonic standing; but the W. M. is in possession of evidence that the visitor, at a later date, has been a member of a lodge other than the one from which his dimit was obtained. Under those circumstances, would the Master of the lodge he proposes to visit be justified in admitting him?

Answer.—The fact of the visitors using the dimit after it has been can-

celled, by his becoming a member of another lodge, carries the evidence of fraud with it, and he should not be admitted.

The following were referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence :

Question.—Can a lodge under any circumstances install its officers without first opening lodge in constitutional form?

* * * * *

Resolved, That the blank forms used by committees in making their reports upon candidates for initiation, be changed so as to read, "He does — make use of intoxicating liquor as a beverage."

Resolved, That when a candidate is reported by an investigating committee as using intoxicating liquors as a beverage, the W. L. M. shall be debarred from giving the degrees to such a candidate.

* * * * *

Is there any law that defines a "due and timely notice" in calling a special meeting of any subordinate lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction? If not, will you please have this Grand Lodge decide what would constitute a "due and timely notice?"

That committee reported, on the first:

No. If it did, such action would be irregular.

And on the second:

Your committee report that they are unable to ascertain that the questions embrace any principle of masonic law calling for the action of this Grand Lodge, still we admit the right of the Grand Lodge to make new regulations, such as may be deemed necessary, provided, always, that the old landmarks be carefully preserved thereby, and subject to the constitution of this Grand Body.

Your committee therefore report the resolutions back, with the recommendation that they be not adopted.

And on the third:

The expression "due and timely notice" in our lectures and work refers to the ancient method of calling and holding lodge meetings. Regular meetings of particular lodges were not held at stated times and places, but all meetings were "called" or "special meetings," and upon "due and timely notice."

This "due and timely notice" required that notice of the time and place of the meeting should be given to all of the members of the lodge. They

had no times for regular meetings, except the festivals of St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist.

Regular communications at stated times are of more recent origin.

* * * * *

Due notice is the notice of the time, place and object of the meeting, and timely notice is that a reasonable time shall intervene between the giving of the notice and time of meeting, to enable the members notified to attend.

Bro. Innes is rapidly making a reputation as a reporter; his report for this year only covers two hundred and twenty-nine pages, embracing a *review* of the proceedings of forty-one Grand Lodges—those of Minnesota included. He makes clean work of it, nothing escapes his notice, and the craft of Michigan may congratulate themselves upon having presented to them a clear and comprehensive synopsis of the transactions of sister Grand Lodges.

M. W. Daniel Striker, Hastings, was elected Grand Master.

R. W. William P. Innes, Grand Rapids, re-elected Grand Secretary, and is also Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee.

MISSOURI, 1879.

The Fifty-ninth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Missouri was held at St. Louis, October 14th, 15th and 16th, 1879.

M. W. Noah M. Givan, G. M., presiding.

One hundred and sixty-one lodges represented.

Two hundred and twenty-one on the roll.

Three dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

Among the decisions reported, we note :

A brother who has received the Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft degrees and then loses his right hand cannot receive the Master's degree.

* * * * *

Suspension for a definite time for any offense does not cancel dues that accrued before the date of suspension. Dues should not, however, be charged against the brother during the time for which he was suspended.

The Chaplain of a lodge is an officer thereof, when the office is provided for in its by-laws, and, when duly installed, cannot resign, and, hence, cannot be legally elected to any other office, to be installed before the expiration of his term of office as Chaplain.

* * * * *

When the Worshipful Master elect of a lodge has been installed without having previously received the Past Master's degree, he should receive that degree and be then installed, as it has been repeatedly held that the Worshipful Master elect of a lodge must receive that degree before he can be installed.

* * * * *

It is not in order for the Worshipful Master to entertain a motion to reconsider the ballot or vote of his lodge by which any proposition was carried or defeated at a former meeting.

A dimit which accompanies a petition for affiliation becomes the property of the lodge when the petitioner is elected, and should not be returned to him thereafter, but should be carefully preserved.

* * * * *

Masonic lodges, as such, should neither encourage or discourage the organization of chapters of the order of the Eastern Star. They are doubtless useful to the families of masons, and the order is a benevolent one, but it is no part of masonry, and should not be regarded as such. Masons, as individuals, may encourage them by becoming members and active workers therein, as they may in any other secret benevolent society.

* * * * *

A lodge cannot take a note for initiation fees or lodge dues, unless such note be a legal-tender note issued by authority of the government of the United States.

* * * * *

Answer.—No. While a mason or a lodge may very properly contribute to the relief of any person in distress, there is no masonic obligation on either to contribute to the support of a mason's sister, either before or after her marriage. That obligation only extends to a Brother Master Mason, his widow and orphans.

Under the head of Electioneering for Office, the Grand Master says :

In balloting for a lodge officer the member is performing a serious and solemn duty; one in which he should have nothing in view save the welfare of his lodge. The best material will be selected when the members are left to their own choice. If a member has ambition to hold office in the lodge, and is worthy, his merits will not long be unheeded. Others are in better position to appreciate them than he. It will be unnecessary as well as unmasonic in him to parade them. The ambition taught in masonry is, who can best work and best agree. In the politics of the day it may be permissible to personally solicit support, as "cheek" is thought

to be an essential to success in that department of life. But masonry is not politics, and the principal ingredient of that article must be brass when a mason can take another by the arm and say: "See here; I want you to vote for me for Master or Warden," as the case may be, or perchance for an office in the Grand Lodge. If electioneering for office is an evil in a subordinate lodge, how much greater in the Grand Lodge. Wherever it exists it cannot be too strongly condemned nor too quickly discontinued. It is a safe rule to adopt to vote for no person for office, either in the Grand Lodge or a subordinate lodge, who has the effrontery to ask votes for himself.

The report on Foreign Correspondence was again presented by Bro. Vincil, and is fully equal to his former report. In this are reviewed the proceedings of fifty-one Grand Lodges. We like the report for one reason, because expression is given to opinions even if corns are trod upon.

Under the head of Georgia he says:

No decisions were reported. We are glad of this. The decision business has been overdone, and ought to cease. We can put our finger on an official in these lands who reported decisions, many—large and small—as having been necessitated by questions arising during his term as Grand Master. More than fifty per cent. of them had been settled by rulings of years standing, and were only manufactured cases, made to order, so that decisions might be made, as exhibiting great wisdom. The truth compels us to say that the said official was a mere tyro in jurisprudence, and a pretender generally. The craft needs rest from this overflowing tide of annual rulings. But very few are needed now; only an occasional necessity for a decision will arise.

Under the head of Idaho, relative to the eternal jurisdiction claim, we find:

It is the same old theory of exclusive and endless jurisdiction. There is involved in this claim of perpetual jurisdiction, a principle at variance with human rights and human authority. It is an assumption of the absolute and the supreme, unwarranted and unsustained by any authority with which men or human institutions are endowed. No mere human enactment can trammel the rights and liberties of man as to his moral being, in the manner and form contemplated in the law of Idaho. Man, in the exercise of his moral liberty and social rights, cannot be pursued and disfranchised forever by arbitrary legislation. When a party proposes to unite with a moral institution, such as masonry, the lodge may not accept his overtures. But while rejecting his proposition, it cannot thereby be-

come possessed of an inalienable claim to him, soul, body and spirit. In the asserting of such claim there is a declared supremacy over the whole being of the party, autocratic, despotic, imperial and papistic. If the law of Idaho is correct, it places masonry above the State in claims, and as to privileges. We can move to Kansas and acquire citizenship by twelve months' residence, under the laws of the commonwealth. But we may live in Kansas ten years and acquire no masonic rights, if some person in Missouri chose to reject our petition while residing in this jurisdiction. No, there is not the least chance to acquire masonic privileges in Kansas without the consent of the rejecting lodge here.

Now we submit to Grand Master Stevenson and Idaho Masons this proposition: Mr. Jones petitions a lodge in Missouri for the mysteries, and is rejected. Twelve months thereafter he may renew his petition in the same lodge, and, if accepted, be made a mason. We presume the same law obtains in Idaho. But at the expiration of twelve months he does not choose to renew his application to the lodge that rejected him. He moves to Idaho. After the lapse of one year he becomes a *bona fide* citizen of that territory, may vote and exercise all citizen rights and privileges. Before he left Missouri, the right to renew his petition to the rejecting lodge was his by the law. Twelve months' residence in Idaho would entitle him to vote as a citizen, but not petition for the mysteries of masonry, and all this in the face of the fact that he was under no masonic disability in Missouri. Yet Idaho denies him an opportunity to secure masonic citizenship, while the State grants citizenship. We assert that Jones is under no masonic disability the day he may renew his application to the rejecting lodge. That renewal may take place at the end of twelve months. If Jones were under masonic disability here, he could not renew his application. But he can renew at the expiration of a year. Therefore he is under no disability. If under none in one lodge, (where he was rejected,) disability cannot be transferred to, and is not acquired by, another lodge. Disability is not transferable, nor is it acquirable from a source where it does not exist. It does not exist where he was rejected, because twelve months removed the disabilities imposed by rejection. If this be not true, then law is a farce, and Grand Lodge legislation is a mockery. All Grand Lodges declare in their laws that a rejected applicant for the mysteries may renew his application at the end of one year following the rejection. Does not the disability terminate with the year? If it does not, then every lodge that receives the petition of a candidate rejected by itself, entertains the application of a party under masonic disability. Who will say so? "But he is free from disability so far as that lodge is concerned, and may renew his application there," will be the reply. Yes, and the fact that he may renew the application where rejected, proves that the case is disembarassed in the eyes of the law.

The law recognizes him as a free man, who may go hence without day, not being followed by the restraints and disfranchisements of arbitrary and

unjust legislation. As these disfranchisements have ceased at home, and cannot be transferred, (because not in existence,) therefore a rejected candidate may petition any lodge where a masonic residence is acquired.

We wish that space would allow us to make further extracts from this truly excellent report.

One word, Bro. Vincil; Minnesota has no controversy with any Grand Lodge; she deprecates controversies; she simply declines, as arrogantly demanded, to do that which she has no power to do. Having granted charters, she cannot withdraw them without cause, and the declension to change allegiance, against pecuniary and masonic interest, is not sufficient cause, particularly as they would be in danger of soon being thrown into unoccupied territory.

M. W. Joseph S. Browne, St. Joseph, was elected Grand Master.

R. W. John D. Vincil, St. Louis, re-elected Grand Secretary, and is also Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee.

MISSISSIPPI, 1879.

The Sixty-first Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi was held at Okolona, January 15th, 16th and 17th, 1879.

M. W. Charles T. Murphy, G. M., presiding.

One hundred and fifty-seven lodges represented.

Three hundred and eighty-five on the roll.

Two dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

Grand Secretary Power presented a detailed statement of his receipts and expenditures on account of yellow fever fund.

He received from Masonic sources,	-	-	\$47,308	54
“ “ Odd Fellows,	-	-	15,572	24
“ “ Miscellaneous,	-	-	12,574	29
“ “ premium on gold,	-	-	17	49
A grand total of				\$75,472 56

On the stay of the epidemic an unexpended balance was on

hand which was distributed in different localities in the State, for the relief of widows and orphans.

A committee was appointed, "with instructions to thoroughly investigate the different systems, and agree upon a definite plan—mutual benefit—for such an organization, to be under the control of the Grand Lodge."

If asked for an opinion, we would be very apt to say, let all such matters alone; leave them where they belong—to the brethren individually. It may be well enough for the ephemeral organizations of the day to establish themselves upon the basis of life insurance, but masonry does not require, for its perpetuity, any innovations in its systems, or the engrafting upon it of new fangled ideas. Cheap life insurance commends itself to prudent men, but Grand Lodges should keep their hands off. With equal propriety they might engage in fire insurance.

The Committee on Masonic Law and Jurisprudence had a large number of questions presented.

From the report, we select:

Question 2.—Is a non-affiliate eligible to honorary membership in the lodge in which he formerly held his membership?

Answer.—Non-affiliates are not eligible to honorary membership in any lodge.

Question 3.—Can the members of a lodge participate as such in the funeral ceremonies of a Companion Royal Arch Mason, who, at the time of his death, was not affiliated.

Answer.—The lodge may grant the request for funeral honors, made by a non-affiliated mason, at its option. It being a lodge benefit, he could not demand it as a right, but the lodge might grant it as a favor. Vide L. & J. report, p. 255, pro. 1870, and p. 168 Text Book—Master Masons congregate as such only in lodges under the direction of the Master, and it is only when so assembled that they can wear the clothing and insignia of the blue lodge in public. There is no objection to the members of a lodge, who are not Royal Arch Masons, attending in their individual capacity the funeral of a non-affiliate conducted under the auspices of a chapter, but no aprons can be worn, or lodge jewels be displayed, under such circumstances.

* * * * *

Question.—When the lodge is ready for trial upon charges preferred

against a brother, can the charges be withdrawn with or without the consent of the accused?

Answer.—The accused is entitled to a full and complete vindication of his character at the hands of his brethren, and it would be a flagrant act of injustice to permit a brother's character to be assailed, and after he has reached the stage of the proceedings when the lodge is about to determine the all important question of guilt or innocence, to permit the accuser to deprive him of the only possible means of so doing, by a withdrawal of the charges.

But there is another and more important reason why the charges cannot be withdrawn after they have been adopted by the lodge. Every offense against masonry casts a reproach upon every member of the order, and to that extent each brother is concerned in clearing the character of the accused, and thereby removing the stigma which the supposed bad conduct of the accused has brought upon the fraternity. Offenses should not be suffered to go unpunished because of the leniency of the accuser, or to save the feelings of the offender. There ought to be no more hesitation in punishing a guilty party than in declaring the innocence of one unjustly charged; and until masons can be educated to feel that, in sitting at the trial of a member, they are bound, by all their obligations, to act as impartially as a father in determining a quarrel between two sons, we will spend our time and waste our energies in deciding questions which a proper sense of natural justice ought to decide in a moment in every right thinking man's mind.

We hold that the committee is right on general principle, but there may be exceptional cases. The accuser may withdraw charges in case he becomes satisfied that his accusation was wrong; that he was in error, and so states in open lodge, and the fact made a matter of record; the accused is vindicated, masonry is vindicated, and the lodge saved the annoyance and expense of a trial.

Question 6.—Are the accused and prosecutor both entitled to be present when the evidence of persons who are not masons is being taken?

Answer.—The accused has a right to be present, not only when the evidence of profanes is being taken, but at every stage of a masonic trial, save only when the lodge is deliberating upon the question of guilt or innocence, and the degree of punishment if found guilty. The prosecutor has the same rights as the accused.

Question 7.—What is understood by the term "profane," when applied to an individual in masonry?

Answer.—One who is not allowed to enter the temple and behold the mysteries—one not initiated.

* * * * *

Question 11.—A brother pleads guilty to a serious offense against the moral law and asks forgiveness. Can the lodge pardon the offender, or must it inflict punishment proportioned to the enormity of the crime.

Answer.—A lodge may forgive an erring brother, when the character of the offense is such as not to bring discredit upon the fraternity, otherwise it owes a duty which it should not hesitate to perform, viz. : to inflict adequate punishment.

Question 12.—At a lodge trial the accused applies for a change of venue but the Master objects. Can the lodge grant the request notwithstanding the Master's objection?

Answer.—Change of venue can only be granted by the lodge, with the consent of the accused. The objection of the Master would go no further than that of any other member, viz. : count as one vote against granting the request.

* * * * *

Question 15.—The daughter of a deceased Master Mason marries a profane and becomes a widow, with children dependent upon her for a support. Has she any claim on the lodge for relief?

Answer.—She has no right to demand relief, having ceased to be an orphan when she became of age, but as we are enjoined by the ancient charges to "do good unto all," there would be no impropriety if the lodge can do so without wronging those who have a stronger claim upon it, in relieving her necessities; indeed, it would be a praiseworthy and laudable act.

Question 16.—A Master Mason, in presence of brother masons, and in public, says he does not "believe the bible to be the word of God, and contained more tales than any other book." When asked what he meant, said, "lies, if you please." The matter is brought to the attention of the Committee on Offenses, who refused to prefer charges. A brother of the same lodge prefers charges and specifications embodying the foregoing language. Do the specifications cover a masonic offense?

Answer.—If the specifications had charged that the language was used by the brother with intention of wounding the feelings of the other brothers present, there would have been, unquestionably, a masonic offense charged, but the substance of the remarks themselves do not, in our opinion, constitute a masonic offense. To hold otherwise, we would conflict with the clear meaning of the first and sixth ancient charge, and the well established principles of the institution of masonry.

Question 17.—A non-affiliate “who is old and poor,” resided for several years in the jurisdiction and received assistance from lodge X, and afterwards moved to another town. He now applies for a “recommendation of his masonic standing, that he might obtain relief from a lodge in the town to which he has removed.” His dues not having been paid or remitted by lodge X, while he resided under its jurisdiction, the Master ruled that it “had not the right to issue the certificate prayed for.” Was the Master’s ruling correct?

Answer.—There can be no objection to the issuance of a certificate setting forth the facts. There is no law or precise rule governing just such a case as is presented above, and heaven be thanked that there is none. It would be impossible to adopt a code of laws which, by their inflexibility, and we might say frigidity, would choke all the life and warmth out of our lodges, and leave them cold and inanimate corpses, with the fingers of charity and brotherly love so tightly clutched together that not even the appeal of a brother who has fallen into decay—mark the words—“being old and poor”—can warm sufficient life into them to enable them to relax long enough to certify to the bare naked facts of his case. But, thank God, masonry is not yet so dead and so cold a thing, that its members can say to a poor old brother, *procul est profani*, and repeat in the same breath the words of the closing charge, “Remember, that around this altar you have promised to befriend and relieve every brother who shall need your assistance. * * These generous principles are to extend further. Every human being has a claim upon your kind offices. Do good unto all. Recommend it more especially to the household of the faithful. Finally, brethren, be you all of one mind; live in peace; and may the God of love and peace dwell with and bless you.” Oh what miserable, mocking hypocrisy for men to ask the “God of love” to dwell with and bless them in so inhuman an act as the denying to a poor old man a few words of commendation to the brethren among whom he was perhaps suffering for bread, and which would insure him relief. One is tempted to exclaim, regarding such a lodge, “How so dwelleth the love of God in you.”

Masonry is not an insurance company or a mutual benefit association, that it need to measure the assistance it will extend by the amount of money paid into its treasury by the recipient. We boast of our charities, even to the extent of writing the word in capital letters in our monitors, inscribe it upon our documents and diplomas, and yet it would seem that we must needs go and learn its alphabet, if the ruling of lodge X was correct; but it was neither a charitable nor a correct ruling.

During the session a Lodge of Sorrow was held, in memory of those who had died during the year, more particularly of those who had been victims of the epidemic; who had been borne to the last resting place almost unaccompanied.

Eloquent addresses were made and fitting eulogies pronounced by Bros. Frederick Speed, our aged friend P. . G. . M. . J. M. Howry, G. Y. Freeman, E. H. Stiles, &c.

Of our old time friend P. . G. . M. . Walter, Bro. Howry said :

To the day of his death he manifested his devotion to our beloved order upon all occasions. In the Grand Bodies he was always placed on important committees, and was recognized as an active, intelligent and useful member, much respected and beloved by his brethren. We could dwell on the life and character of Bro. Walter as a man and a mason, but others claim our attention and we must let this suffice. We will add, however, that the circumstances of his death and burial, and those of his three noble sons, were indescribably sad. They grappled with the monster about three weeks, and but a short time intervened between their deaths. The father and one son were buried by the two sons and a servant alone. The two last, Frank and James, were taken sick and died about the same time, and were carried to their last resting place by two faithful colored men. No wife or mother, brother or sister to follow them; no requiem or funeral obsequies performed by mourning friends. How sad—how solemn the thought!

The report on Foreign Correspondence is again from the pen of the venerable Bro. J. M. Howry. We love to read the emanations from learned brethren like Bro. Howry, who learned their masonry two and three scores of years since.

Noticing our Lodge of Sorrow, he says :

The very interesting proceedings of a Lodge of Sorrow in honor of Grand Master Braden and Bro. Richardson, Grand Tyler, are found in the Grand Lodge minutes. Our excellent friend and brother, Past Grand Master ierson, presided as W. . M. .

The address of Grand Orator, Ill. Bro. Jones, was worthy of himself and the occasion. Appropriate addresses were likewise delivered by Bros. Wells, Baker and Griswold.

Did our space allow it, we would certainly give some extracts from the addresses, especially that of Bro. Jones, which is one of rare merit, and is calculated to touch the heart of every one who heard or reads it.

M. . W. . Frank Burkitt, Okolona, elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . J. L. Power, Jackson, re-elected Grand Secretary.

Bro. James M. Howry, Oxford, Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee.

MONTANA, 1878.

The Fourteenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Montana was held at Virginia City, October 1st, 2nd and 3rd, 1878.

M. W. William A. Clark, G. M., presiding.

Eighteen lodges represented.

Twenty-two on the roll.

Transactions of local interest. Good many talkers in that Grand Lodge, or a few persistent ones, judging from the amendments proposed to each proposition presented and lost, &c. ; good thing too, as it demonstrates that no proposition was adopted until thoroughly discussed.

Bro. Hedges, as usual, presented the report on Foreign Correspondence. Only one criticism to offer. Much too brief. Minnesota receives its full proportion of notice.

Of the Lodge of Sorrow, and of our late Grand Master Braden, he says :

The practical tribute of Bro. J. H. Baker, his companion in arms during the late war, is a gem whose lustre would be lost in cutting, or we would give a portion.

Of Bro. Goodrich and the colored question, he says :

"Colored masonry" receives one more parting kick at the hands or feet of Bro. Goodrich, whose protracted wrath reminds us of that irate deacon, who was discovered cudgeling a dead skunk, to teach it that there was punishment after death. Bro. Goodrich would make us believe that there were few free-born at the time of the early planting of masonry in America. It is enough to know that we are all peers now.

M. W. John Stedman was elected Grand Master.

R. W. Cornelius Hedges, re-elected Grand Secretary, and is also Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee—each of Helena.

MANITOBA, 1878.

The Third Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of

Manitoba was held at Winnipeg, June 12th, 13th and 14th, 1878.

M.: W.: Geo. F. Newcomb, G.: M.:, presiding.

Six lodges represented.

One dispensation for a new lodge issued during the year.

As an experiment to abate certain existing evils, the Grand Master issued a circular containing the following points :

First—For the future, until otherwise instructed, the appointments of committees on applications for initiation or affiliation to your lodge should *not* be made in open lodge, but to your Secretary alone.

Second—Said committees, in every instance to receive separate notifications of their appointments, with instructions to report through the same source.

Third—Committees on applications aforesaid should *not* be composed of those proposing or recommending the same.

Fourth—In announcing the nature of the reports from committees, the secretary may withhold their names, unless otherwise requested by them.

To avoid repetition of the indiscretion alluded to, this circular is issued, desiring you to have the same read in your lodge at the next three regular meetings, and to urge your prompt action against any member of your lodge disregarding the sentiment prefaced herein.

The Master of one of the lodges refused to obey ; the Grand Master promptly suspended him from office and cited him before the Board of General Purposes for trial ; he sent a written acknowledgment of error, promised good behavior for the future, and the Grand Master as promptly re-instated him.

Among the recommendations submitted, we note :

To guard the "Oriental Chair" against inefficient occupants and encourage a higher knowledge of our noble science amongst the W.: Ms.:, the following are respectfully submitted :

First—That in the future Grand Masters elect shall appoint soon after their installation a committee to examine the W.: M.:s elect, and only upon the certificate in *writing* from the majority of this committee shall they be installed.

Second—That all future Past Masters, before receiving a diploma, jewel of office, or being permitted to take rank as such, shall be required to produce, when called for by the Grand Master or Deputy Grand Master, a certificate in writing from a majority of said committee to the effect that they have been enrolled upon the list of efficient Past Masters.

Third—That every brother who shall receive the three established degrees in this jurisdiction shall be expected to pass a thorough and searching examination in open lodge within twelve months of the date of raising; and only when a certificate signed by the Worshipful Master and one of the Wardens of the lodge in which the brother was raised, has been filed in the Grand Secretary's office, shall he be eligible to office.

Fourth—All brethren who affiliate will require to pass the same character of examination in open lodge to render them eligible to office.

Only one death during the year of an affiliated mason; that one left a widow and one child in distressed circumstances. A subscription was started and a sufficient amount realized to pay off the indebtedness, purchase a lot, and erect a small house. Verily our Manitoba brethren *practice* their professions.

A report on Foreign Correspondence was presented, and it was ordered to be printed as an appendix to the proceedings. It is not to be found in our copy.

M.: W.: Geo. F. Newcomb, Grand Master.

R.: W.: John Bell, Grand Secretary, were each re-elected, both of Winnipeg.

1879.

The pamphlet containing the proceeding of the Fourth Annual Communication, contain also the proceedings had at a Special Communication held December 20th, 1878.

Certain members of the Grand Lodge, dissatisfied with the adoption of a work and ritual undertook to organize a new Grand Lodge. The most active party in the rebellion appears to have been the one that the Grand Master had forgiven a penal offence but a few months previous.

The Special Communication was convened to consider the action taken by the malcontents. After a lengthy examination of the charges, the Junior Grand Warden and two Past Grand Masters among the number, the parties were suspended, and each cited to show cause at the Annual Communication why they should not be expelled.

The Annual Communication was held February 12th. Four of the seven lodges were represented.

M. W. George F. Newcomb, G. M., presiding.

In opening his address, the Grand Master says :

On assuming the honorable position of Grand Master, one of the first indispensable duties which met me was to change a very pernicious custom, viz., that of the Craft ruling the Grand Master. To such an extent had this custom prevailed, that he was merely considered a "figure-head;" consequently an administration requiring obedience might be expected to be attended with difficulties such as met me in the discipline of the members and lodges in this jurisdiction.

With reference to those suspended, the following was adopted :

That it be resolved by this Grand Lodge, in the matter of all brethren and lodges who are at present under suspension, and whose cases have been before this Grand Lodge, be in the meantime left in abeyance, the suspensions be continued, and that the Grand Master elect be empowered to deal with the matter upon consultation with the D. G. Master and Wardens.

Evidently with a view to, if possible, terminate the difficulty, which was finally accomplished, the dissatisfied parties acknowledging their errors, promising obedience in the future, the suspension was removed and peace and harmony restored.

Manitoba has a marked agricultural position in the Northwest; emigration is rapidly filling up its vacant places, and masonry is in a position to be of untold benefit to its people. We rejoice with our brethren in the north that peace and harmony reigns—prosperity must inevitably follow.

The reception of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota is not acknowledged by the committee. We assure them that they have been promptly forwarded, and will be duplicated, if desired.

M. W. Rev. Samuel P. Matheson, was elected Grand Master.

R. W. John H. Bell, re-elected Grand Secretary, each of Winnipeg.

NEW HAMPSHIRE, 1879.

The Ninetieth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire was held at Concord, May 21st, 1879.

M. W. Solon A. Carter, G. M., presiding.

Fifty-six lodges represented.

Ninety-three on the roll.

One dispensation for a new lodge issued during the year.

The Grand Master refused to allow a lodge, as such, to participate in the ceremonies of "Decoration Day;" holding that "the masonic organization should not appear in public except for a strictly masonic purpose."

Concurre.

On the eternal jurisdiction claim, he says :

It is unjust, it seems to me, to claim that a candidate rejected by a lodge in New Hampshire to-day, must, after a residence of five years in a neighboring State, if he desires to make application to a lodge in his new home, present with his application the unanimous consent of the lodge which first rejected him.

He may have been rejected in the first instance for causes which might be wholly removed, or cease to have weight in his new home, which fact the original objector would not and could not know.

The District Deputies had visited the lodges and reported upon the condition of each. Why is it that the same results cannot be accomplished in Minnesota?

A party had been tried and convicted by his lodge, charged with adultery; the lodge, by vote, refused to inflict penalty other than reprimand. The Committee on Trials and Appeals reported :

Now, if it is true that the Grand Lodge has no power to consider cases where the particular lodge had administered only a reprimand, many of the provisions of the Grand Regulations are useless and absurd. Such a doctrine would lead to very dangerous and objectionable results.

Any lodge, by refusing to expel or suspend a brother convicted of crime, no matter how great, might thereby put it beyond the power of the Grand Lodge or the fraternity to rid themselves of the vilest, even if his offense were capital crime. But there is still a higher power in the Grand Lodge in all such matters. It is the supreme authority in the jurisdiction where

it is situated, and has no limit except the ancient landmarks and its own constitution.

Such is the law laid down by every work on masonic jurisprudence throughout the country. The government of the fraternity is certainly as important a subject as the Grand Lodge has to consider, and if there were not ample provision in its Grand Regulations, it would be bound to govern them nevertheless, and especially when the good of the order demands. When the honor of the craft is at peril, and its fair name is liable to be blackened by the gross and shameless conduct of those under its control, whether individuals or lodges, this Grand Body will, if necessary, invoke its extraordinary power and take cognizance of all matters of discipline and government, and see to it that justice is done in the premises.

* * * * *

Such a course should not be tolerated, and the Grand Lodge ought not only to visit upon the accused such punishment as his behavior merits, but should deal with its subordinate in a manner that will convince all who are subject to its government that the laws and regulations of the M. W. Grand Lodge of New Hampshire cannot be trifled with, and the well grounded precepts of the fraternity cannot be set at naught with impunity.

And recommended expulsion, which was adopted. Subsequently a resolution was adopted providing for a commission to try the lodge, in the mean time the charter to be arrested.

Bro. A. S. Wait presented a well condensed review of the proceedings of forty-seven Grand Lodges, those of Minnesota included.

M. W. Solon A. Carter, Keene, re-elected Grand Master.

R. W. George P. Cleaves, Concord, re-elected Grand Secretary.

Bro. Albert S. Wait, Newport, Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee.

NEW JERSEY, 1879.

The Ninety-second Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey was held at Trenton, January 22nd and 23rd, 1879.

M. W. Marshall B. Smith, G. M., presiding.

One hundred and thirty-two lodges represented.

One hundred and forty-eight on the roll.

One dispensation for a new lodge issued during the year.

The following ode was sung at the opening :

(*Air*—PETERBORO'.)

With grateful hearts we meet again,
As craftsmen tried and true,
United by the golden chain
That binds the "enlightened few."

On Thee, our God, who reign'st above,
With reverence we call;
O! teach us, through Thy boundless love,
That we are brothers all.

Grant that our councils, by Thy aid,
From discord may be free;
And that each word and act be sway'd
By gentle charity.

Impress upon each mason's heart—
Let whatsoe'er befall—
To act the true fraternal part,
For we are brothers all.

O Lord! imbue us with a share
Of wisdom from on high,
That all our workmanship prove square
To Thy all-seeing eye.

Grant that our footsteps may be freed
From every sinful thrall;
That we may show, by word and deed,
That we are brothers all.

Among the decisions reported, we note :

1. A Grand Master has no power, in this jurisdiction, to heal or authorize a lodge to advance a person who has received any of the three symbolic degrees in violation of an ancient landmark. Degrees thus received are, of necessity, null and void.

2. No officer of this Grand Lodge can, during his term of office, be excluded from any lodge in this jurisdiction, except in the event of his suspension or expulsion, legally and for just cause, by the proper masonic authority.

3. A lodge quorum, in New Jersey, is a number equal to that required to obtain or to retain a lodge warrant.

A party who had lost the thumb of his right hand was initiated ; as soon as informed thereof the Grand Master suspended the Master of the lodge.

The Grand Master notes a growing evil. We find :

Permit me to call your attention to an evil, concerning which no one holding the office of Grand Master can long remain in ignorance. I allude to the obtrusion into our ancient fraternity of influences based upon membership in other secret associations. With those societies or orders, when they are based on the great principles of charity and human brotherhood, Freemasonry need have no conflict ; but when Freemasons who belong to them form factions in our lodges to control elections, or to compel action contrary to the laws of this Grand Lodge, and subversive of the time-honored principles and landmarks of our fraternity, such masons deserve the reprobation of every true craftsman, and the severest condemnation of this Grand Lodge.

And, on the other hand, I do not hesitate to say, that any Freemason who uses the masonic institution as a means of promoting his own selfish ends—in the church or in the State, in his profession or in his business—or who obtrudes masonry into societies of which he may be a member, is ignorant of the first principles of our institution, and is wholly unworthy of the honored name of Free and Accepted Mason.

He says, in closing :

During the three years of service in this office, friendships have been formed and old ties strengthened, and I shall retire from active duty with a truer attachment than ever before to our ancient and honorable fraternity ; a brotherhood so linked together over the globe that all of its members may say :

“Wherever wrong is done,
To the humblest and the weakest, 'neath the all-beholding sun,
The wrong is also done to us ; and they are slaves most base,
Whose love of right is for themselves, and not for all their race.”

A new trial code was adopted.

A report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing a review of the proceedings of forty-three Grand Lodges, was presented by Bro. James A. Norton ; it is worthy of the State from which it

emanates. Minnesota receives fraternal notice of three pages. *En passant*, Bro. Norton, that discussion is closed so far as *our* reports are concerned. We considered that justice required that an opportunity for reply should be given; we afforded the opportunity; each side had two tilts, which we thought sufficient for our pages.

M. W. Hamilton Wallis, Jersey City, elected Grand Master.

R. W. Joseph H. Hough, Trenton, re-elected Grand Secretary, and is also Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee.

NEW YORK, 1879.

The Ninety-eighth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of New York was held in New York City, June 3d, 4th, 5th and 6th, 1879.

M. W. Edmund L. Judson, G. M., presiding.

Six hundred and fifty-six lodges represented.

Seven hundred and eighty-one on the roll.

One dispensation for a new lodge issued during the year.

Under the head of "Exterior Relations," the Grand Master says:

A question precisely similar in principle is at issue between the Grand Lodges of Dakota and Minnesota in our country. Not to occupy your time with a lengthy argument you will find the question turns upon the right of a newly formed Grand Lodge to demand allegiance from a subordinate that had occupied the territory previous to such formation. The weight of opinion seems to be that allegiance in such cases cannot be demanded, but must be voluntary.

As masonry is based and continued upon voluntary action there can be no other solution to the question.

The Grand Master announced the decease during the year of a number of prominent brethren, among them,

R. W. Robert R. Boyd, Grand Secretary from 1846 to 1849.

M. W. James Jenkinson, Grand Master in 1858.

R. W. John W. Timson, Past Junior Grand Warden.

The writer knew each of these brothers, in the long ago, and

it was from his intercourse with Bro. Timson, half a century since, that he conceived the idea of joining the institution.

From the report of the Grand Secretary, we learn that the receipts of his office, for dues, warrants, dispensations, and diplomas, during the year, amounted to \$91,105.75, and 75,918 affiliated masons in the State.

From the Report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, we select :

2. *Resolved*, That the Master of a lodge, after assembling the craft, may authorize any qualified brother to open his lodge in his presence, under the same restrictions and regulations as he might permit the performance of any other portion of the lodge-work by such brother.

* * * * *

6. *Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge, recognizing the cosmopolitan principles of Freemasonry, directs the Committee on Work and Lectures to strike from the ritual all words of a sectarian character.

7. *Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge not only does not recognize, but forbids the use of any written or printed, or written and printed ritual of Work and Lectures, under such Masonic penalty as may be inflicted for the violation of an obligation.

8. *Resolved*, That the fees paid by a candidate at initiation, are paid for being "made a mason;" there being no pecuniary fee or reward given for conferring the second and third degrees, which are conferred as honorariums.

The report on Foreign Correspondence presented to the Grand Lodge of New York embraces a review of the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of the world, assisted by Bro. Penner as translator—except French, Arabic and Choctaw, as in those languages Bro. John is proficient—the reports are prepared by Bro. John W. Simons, and as he has been engaged in the matter for "lo, these many years," his opinions are sought after and have great weight—when he is right—in the adjustment of important questions. The study of masonry has been with him, for many years, a hobby, and no one of the reporters of the day is better prepared to investigate masonic matters than he.

Under the head of Iowa, commenting on Bro. Parvin's report, he says :

Our good and philosophical brother appears to overlook the fact that the masons of to-day are not those of twenty years ago; that the questions familiar to him and others of the old stagers have yet to be learned by the new comers, who will not go back to look for their rise and progress, but expect to have their difficulties solved at once. Then again, shut out these reports and what should we know of one another, and how immensely would the fraternal chain they are constantly burnishing be dimmed, and our vision be restricted within the narrow lines of our respective jurisdictions. If they did no other good than to spread the tidings of fraternal progress, and to extend the hand of brotherly sympathy and advice, they would still be worth many times their cost. Restrict them within narrower limits, if you will, but let not our annual journals be the dry messengers of merely routine business, interesting none outside our own jurisdiction.

Under the head of Minnesota, we find.

GRAND ORIENT.

On this subject the Grand Lodge adopted the report of a committee, declaring that the Grand Orient of France, in removing the foundation stone of Freemasonry has lost all claim upon the craft, and forbidding the recognition of masons of the French Obedience *until such obedience has been severed.*

This does not appear to us to cover the ground, because a person who had severed his connection may have been originally made in a lodge not recognizing the masonic requirement of the existence of God, or he may have been and still remain an atheist, since under French rule there is nothing to prevent an atheist being made a mason, and it is not usual to ask the question of an affiliating mason, it being taken for granted, that having been made a mason, he must of necessity believe in God. In this respect the Minnesota resolution seems to leave the question, except as to the severance of official relations, about where it was before.

Which goes to show the necessity of committees taking time to prepare reports; the words in italics were added to the report of the committee after its presentation. The object was to invite those French lodges, who did not consent to the change in the constitution, to withdraw from the Grand Orient by the assurance that they should be excepted from the non-intercourse provision.

We admit the aptness of the criticism.

Under the head of Nevada, we find:

It does not seem to have occurred to the general masonic mind, that

whatever the representative of one Grand Lodge near another might be able to say, is at least as well said, and in greater detail by the Committee on Correspondence. The real object of these appointments is to testify by the personal presence of the representatives the warm fraternal interest and greeting of the Grand Lodge represented, and this, we very respectfully suggest, is best done by the New York custom of having, during the annual session, all the representatives presented at once, and saluted as we would salute the bodies they represent. If this custom were made general, we should all know that at every meeting of a Grand Lodge, all the others were kindly and fraternally greeted and remembered. If, additionally, each representative would send promptly to the Grand Master of the jurisdiction he represents, a brief account of the transactions of his Grand Lodge, with such printed documents as may be at his command, we imagine that the highest level to be expected will have been attained. It affords us great pleasure to add, that this proceeding occurred in the Grand Lodge of Nevada.

Under the head of Quebec, he says :

Originally the territory now known as the Dominion of Canada was divided into the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, wherein the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland and Scotland exercised co-ordinate jurisdiction, establishing lodges and forming the provincial machinery usual with those bodies. Several of these provincial organizations were represented near the Grand Lodge of New York. About 1858 the Grand Lodge of Canada was formed, and after many struggles, was at last recognized, both here and "at home," as an Independent Grand Lodge, having jurisdiction over all Canada, with the sole restriction that lodges established by the home authorities previous to the establishment of the Grand Lodge of Canada might, if they so elected, remain subordinate to the Grand Lodge which had originally granted their charter, and some do so remain up to this day.

In 1867 the English parliament adopted an act by which the designations of Upper and Lower Canada were obliterated, the two provinces declared to be separate, and to be hereafter known as Ontario and Quebec respectively, each to have a capital, a legislature, and the right to manage its local affairs without regard to the other. On this basis the lodges in the Province of Quebec claimed the right to, and did, establish an Independent Grand Lodge, which has met with general recognition, the Grand Lodge of Scotland being included. Here begins the present trouble. The Grand Lodge of Quebec, adopting the American doctrine of exclusive jurisdiction, claims the obedience of, and the right to govern, all lodges working within its territory. To this Scotland demurs, and, failing an agreement, withdraws its recognition of Quebec, asserts its right to prior occupation, and endeavors to make it good by establishing two new lodges and appointing

a Provincial Grand Master. There is evidently wrong on both sides, and a recognition of this fact ought to make a prompt solution of the difficulty a comparatively easy matter.

It is certain that lodges of the Scottish Register existed in the Province of Quebec prior to the establishment of the Grand Lodge of that name; that they so existed with the full consent of the Grand Lodge of Canada, holding acknowledged jurisdiction over the Province of Quebec until it was yielded to the new Grand Lodge, and that these lodges, or some of them, refused to join in the formation of the Quebec Grand Lodge. It is clear that the Grand Lodge of Canada could not yield a jurisdiction it did not possess, and while the Quebec body might demand the obedience of these lodges, it could not, in the face of these precedents, enforce it. But, on the other hand; Scotland, having recognized the existence of an independent Grand Lodge in Quebec, could neither in honor nor equity violate that recognition by founding new lodges in territory it had yielded, *ipso facto*, by such recognition; for, having freely surrendered the territory, and allowed it to be occupied by a recognized masonic power, the ground could no longer be claimed as vacant, nor would the withdrawal by the Grand Lodge of Scotland of its previous recognition, affect the validity of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, nor give it (Scotland) the right to trespass on occupied territory. In this respect the action of the Grand Lodge of Scotland would have been just the same had it granted warrants for lodges to be located in New York or Pennsylvania, and it commits the same offense against established rights as the Grand Lodge of Hamburg has done as against us. On this ground the American Grand Lodges must, to be consistent with their own records, make common cause with Quebec. But, on the other hand, Elgin Lodge having existed in the Province of Quebec before the establishment of the Grand Lodge of that name, general masonic opinion outside of the United States is against the right of the Quebec Grand Lodge to demand its allegiance; nor is that opinion without its advocates in this country, as in the cases of New Mexico and Dakota. While we have been among the most persistent advocates of the American doctrine of Grand Lodge sovereignty, still we fail to perceive how it can be made of general acceptance except in the cases of already established and acknowledged Grand Lodges, where the planting of a new lodge by outside authority is an invasion of a previously established jurisdiction. To go beyond this would seem to be the declaration of a principle that cannot be enforced without a general disruption of amicable relations between the masonic powers of the old world and those of the new.

Our conclusion, therefore, is that the difficulty should be settled by a return to the original status; that is to say, that Scotland should withdraw its charters granted since the erection of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and that the latter should allow Elgin Lodge to continue until in due time it may find its best interest to lie in uniting with the local authority. We are satisfied that any other disposition of the case will only lead to long

and perhaps bitter dissension, which will redound neither to the benefit of the parties nor to the good name of the craft, and we therefore respectfully urge that this disposition be made.

The difficulty in Dakota, to which reference has been made under that head, involves the same principle as in the foregoing case, in that one lodge in that territory, existing before the formation of the Grand Lodge, refuses to unite with it, and claims the right to pay fealty to its mother Grand Lodge, (Minnesota,) and the same reasoning will apply, though we are free to confess that so far as American Grand Lodges are concerned, we should prefer the fullest application of American ideas as to jurisdiction. It is, however, an open question, and, in our judgment, it cannot be too soon adjusted.

The cases Bro. John are not analagous. Minnesota has not formally recognized the Grand Lodge of Dakota, by a withdrawal of her rights as one of the Grand Lodges holding concurrent jurisdiction; but is ready to do so whenever her lodges in the territory so wills, nor has she established new lodges in the territory since the organization of the Grand Lodge, although repeatedly importuned to do so; she has done nothing but refused to drive her own children out of her house.

Again Quebec has a well-settled boundary line, Dakota has not. The question of boundary is before the National Congress; and the northern lodges assign as one reason for desire to remain as they are, that in a few months they may be separated from it by new lines if they should affiliate with Dakota. The West Virginia matter settled that question.

We intended to make some quotations from his review of the Grand Bodies of the Old World, but time and space, &c.

M. W. Charles Roome, was elected Grand Master.

R. W. James M. Austin, re-elected Grand Secretary.

Bro. John W. Simons, Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee, all of New York.

NORTH CAROLINA, 1878.

The Ninety-second Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina was held at Raleigh, December 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th, 1878.

M. W. Horace H. Munson, G. M., presiding.

One hundred and forty-two lodges represented.
Three hundred and sixty-five on the roll.
Eight dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.
Among the decisions reported, we note :

Question.—Would the testimony of an expelled mason be admissible in a masonic trial?

Answer.—It would not under certain circumstances. If expelled on account of a violation of his O. . B. ., he would not hesitate to falsify his word.

Question.—Can a secretary use the seal of the lodge without authority from the lodge?

Answer.—He can by order of the W. . M. . If he uses it otherwise, and it is made apparent, the lodge can apply the remedy.

Question.—Can matters in hands of the Reference Committee be withdrawn, and acted upon before they report?

Answer.—A lodge can, at any time, withdraw any matter from the hands of any committee, and act independently thereupon.

Question.—If officers are elected and installed, in opposition to the law of the Grand Lodge, is such a lodge duly constituted, and are its acts legal?

Answer.—Such an election and installation is illegal, and the acts of a lodge so constituted are null and void.

The Grand Master closes his business-like address with the following :

I do not conceive it necessary, at this late day, when for more than three thousand years our altar fires have been kept so brightly burning, that I should pronounce an eulogy upon masonry. Its deeds are impressed upon your minds and its virtues registered in your hearts. To you who have passed its portals and been inducted into its mysteries, surely no voice of mine is needed to strengthen your devotion, stimulate your zeal, or fire your ambition. Its principles have been studied by you to little purpose if you have failed to discover that wherever you find a genuine mason, one who is guided by the purity of its doctrines, and is living up to its teachings, there you will find "God's noblest work—an honest man." Let us remember that "the greatest masonic sinner is he who violates the divine law and precept of charity, while the most perfect man is he who does his duty most faithfully to God, his country, his neighbor and himself." This is a truth which can never die.

"The pure, the bright, the beautiful,
That stirred our hearts in youth;
The impulse of a worldless prayer,
The dream of love and truth,
The longings after something lost,
The spirit's yearning cry,
The strivings after better hopes;
These things shall never die.

"The timed hand stretched forth to aid
A brother in his need,
That kindly word in grief's dark hour
That proves the friend indeed,
The plea of mercy, softly breathed,
When justice threatens nigh,
The sorrow of a contrite heart;
These things shall never die.

"The cruel and the bitter word
That wounded as it fell,
The craving want of sympathy
We feel but never tell,
The hard repulse that chills the heart
Whose hopes were bounding high;
In an unfaded record kept,
These things shall never die.

"Let nothing pass, for every hand
Must find some work to do;
Lose not a chance to waken love,
Be firm, and just, and true.
So shall a light that cannot fade
Beam brightly from on high,
And angel voices say to thee,
These things shall never die."

An elaborate report on the doings and condition of the Oxford Orphan Asylum was presented; an institution which does great credit to the brethren of that jurisdiction. Notice was given of a legacy of one thousand dollars, by a deceased gentleman, for the institution.

Transactions of local interest.

Bro. Geo. W. Blount acknowledged the receipt of the pro-

ceedings of thirty-six Grand Lodges. No attempt is made to review.

M. . W. . William R. Cox, was elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . Donald W. Bain, re-elected Grand Secretary—both of Raleigh.

Bro. Geo. W. Blount, Wilson, Chairman Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

NEBRASKA, 1879.

The Twenty-second Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska was held at Lincoln, June 24th, 25th and 26th, 1879.

R. . W. . James A. Tulleys, D. . G. . M. ., presiding.

Sixty-one lodges represented.

Seventy-one on the roll.

Four dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

The Grand Master was unavoidably absent, but sent an address, which was read by the Grand Secretary.

Transactions of local interest.

The report on Foreign Correspondence was on the Nebraska plan ; result : reports received from but few of the Grand Representatives—Minnesota not among the number. How is that M. . W. . Bro. Jordan?

On the evening of June 24th, "The Past Grand Masters' Association" held a Lodge of Sorrow, in memory of P. . G. . M. . Frank Welch ; P. . G. . M. . R. C. Jordan, presided, who, in his address at opening, says :

It is within a few weeks of twenty-two years since the Grand Lodge of Nebraska was organized. During those years, to the present time, thirteen different brethren have been honored by the Grand Lodge as its presiding officer. By a singular and unusual ordering of divine providence, up to within a year past, these were all alive and residents of this State.

Two years ago our Venerable Grand Orator (who will address you this evening) conceived the happy idea of having all the Past Grand Masters meet at Omaha during the session of the Grand Lodge, and form an association to be called the "Past Grand Masters' Association of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska, Free and Accepted Masons," its object being to keep alive an interest with each member in the affairs of the craft, and preserve

the recollections and pleasant memories of bygone years of active service in the order. He proceeded to act at once in the matter, and by personal effort succeeded in securing the presence of nearly all the Past Grand Masters at the session of the Grand Lodge held in Omaha in June, 1877.

The organization was perfected at that session, and among the several matters determined upon was this: that in case of the death of one of the members, the survivors would, at some convenient time, hold a Lodge of Sorrow, in memory of his life and labors in the fraternity. In accordance with this determination, and for this purpose, we have met this evening. Since our last annual meeting the tyrant death has invaded our ranks and made captive one of our small number.

P. . G. . M. . Furnas was the Orator of the occasion, and paid an eloquent tribute to the memory of his old-time friend.

M. . W. . Rolland H. Oakley, Lincoln, was elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . William R. Bowen, Omaha, re-elected Grand Secretary.

NEVADA, 1879.

The Fifteenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Nevada was held in the City of Virginia, June 10th, 11th and 12th, 1879.

M. . W. . Henry L. Fish, G. . M. ., presiding.

Eighteen lodges represented.

Twenty-one on the roll.

On the duties of Grand Representatives, the Grand Master says:

Since the general adoption of Grand Lodge representation, the question is frequently asked, What are the duties of a Grand Representative? I am not aware that these have ever been, by any jurisdiction, particularly defined. I should consider them to be, generally, as follows: To become especially conversant with the constitution, by-laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge he represents, for the information of that to which he is accredited; to attend all communications of the Grand Lodge in the jurisdiction of which he may reside, acting as counsel for that which he represents on all questions which may arise, jurisdictional or otherwise; to distribute statistical or other official documents issued from the Grand Lodge he represents; to receive and introduce brethren of the same; and to strive to cultivate a correct understanding, a firm friendship, and unity of thought and purpose among the respective Grand Lodges.

Among the decisions reported, we note :

No. 1. The election of officers of a lodge having been held at the time prescribed in the constitution, and the proceeding regular, a dispensation is not necessary to install said officers, on account of a failure to perform the ceremony at the time first determined upon, but they should be installed as soon as practicable.

No. 2. No other Past Master being available, the Master re-elected should install the subordinate officers elect of his lodge, and be re-installed as Master as soon as practicable.

* * * * *

No. 5. A lodge is not disorganized or dissolved by reason of the destruction of its charter. Its officers, having been duly elected and installed, hold their respective offices until their successors shall have been elected and qualified, and, notwithstanding the loss of said charter, may carry out the will of the lodge, as expressed at its last meeting, such as the drawing of warrants and payment of lodge money. Lodge dues continue, and the right of representation in Grand Lodge is unimpaired; but lodge work must be suspended until the issuance of a dispensation or re-issue of its charter.

Relative to expenditures for relief of foreign brethren, he says :

Upon several occasions lodges in this jurisdiction, having expended moneys for the care and burial of members of other jurisdictions, have rendered accounts to the lodge of which the deceased was a member, requesting repayment of the amounts so expended. In some cases these demands have doubtless been deemed unjust by those upon whom the demand was made, and possibly imposed a burden they were scarcely able to bear, thus creating an unfraternal feeling among brethren. Admitting some force in the argument that frequent expenditures of this character without reimbursement would deplete the finances of a lodge, and in time might seriously impair its effectiveness for charity, yet I think these demands unmasonic, and not the general practice in this jurisdiction.

The brother who comes among us, far from home and friends, appeals to our sympathy in case of sickness, and is entitled to our charity. If he die in our midst let kind hands lay him away tenderly, prompted by that brotherly affection which doeth good deeds without price or hope of earthly reward.

Transactions of local interest.

A report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing a review of the proceedings of forty-eight Grand Lodges—those of Minnesota

included—was presented by Bro. R. H. Taylor. Suffice to say that it is written in his usual style of excellence.

Under the head of Iowa, he says, relative to Bro. Parvin's report:

We are surprised that a man of thought, one who has himself done so much good work in this department, should have caught up the stale cry of "mutual admiration society," etc. Why not "speak their piece again?" On the principle advocated here you might as well abolish all the pulpits and close all the school houses in the land—"they have had their day." What Bro. Parvin has done in the very paper now before us militates against his new-born theory, for he handles the subjects now being discussed in the masonic world, and expresses opinions which will have their effect in reforming errors and establishing correct usage.

* * * * *

We have no doubt that the Ancient and Accepted Rite is teeming with "good things." Let's take the whole thing bodily; "if a good thing, why not appropriate it, and make it ours as well as theirs?" No, thank you; too many men are attempting to engraft upon symbolic masonry too many "good things" belonging to other societies. If they are successful, Ancient Craft Masonry won't know herself after awhile.

We find, under the head of Kansas:

The masonic as well as the political world "is governed too much." What we want is not legislation, but a return to common sense and to masonry as the fathers taught it. Ordinary bestowals of charity seek no return. If one lodge authorizes another to expend money for it in a case calling for extraordinary outlay, then, and only then, should there be a reimbursement.

Under the head of Minnesota, he criticises one of Bro. Durant's decisions:

This we do not believe to be sound masonic law. Residence means "personal presence in a fixed and personal abode." The "presence" of wife and family (though sometimes desirable,) does not fix or determine the residence of the husband and father, according to any law that we know of.

Again, in reply to our remarks of last year:

But we wish to ask why "a ceremony of the Ancient and Accepted Rite" should be reported in the proceedings of the "Grand Lodge of Ancient

Free and Accepted Masons of Minnesota?" Borrowed, say you; what right have we, as Ancient Craft Masons, to borrow thus "from the A. & A. R." or any other rite? So do "we believe in rendering unto Cæsar all that belongs to him;" or, rather, and better yet, we do not believe in borrowing or wearing the habiliments of Cæsar at all.

It was not printed as part of the proceeding, but in the appendix, for the information of the brethren of the jurisdiction. Borrowed?—yes, upon the same principle that John Wesley did some of his tunes; "that he did not believe the devil should have all of the best music."

M. W. DeWitt C. McKenney, Austin, was elected Grand Master.

R. W. John D. Hammond, Carson, re-elected Grand Secretary.

Bro. Robert H. Taylor, Virginia, Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee.

NOVA SCOTIA, 1878.

The Thirteenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia was held at Halifax, June 5th, 6th and 7th, 1878.

M. W. John Wimburn Laurie, G. M., presiding.

Forty-nine lodges represented.

Seventy-four on the roll.

One dispensation for a new lodge issued during the year.

The address of the Grand Master was confined to a report of his official acts.

The reports of the District Deputies evidence that each have been zealous in the discharge of duty.

The Grand Secretary reported that not one instance of discipline for unmasonic conduct had been reported during the year.

Bro. A. H. Crowe presented a very able and interesting report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing a review of the proceedings of forty-nine Grand Lodges, those of Minnesota included.

Under the head of Mississippi, we find:

We have what is called a Board of Installed Masters, composed of none but actual Past Masters, in which we impart all the instruction necessary to qualify a brother to rule his lodge and discharge the duties of his posi-

tion creditably. As blue masons, we know nothing of Chapter Past Masters; that degree, we take it, is only given as a stepping stone to the Royal Arch; where it came from, in our opinion, it is not necessary here to state.

M.·. W.·. J. Wimburn Laurie, Grand Master.

R.·. W.·. Benjamin Curren, Grand Secretary, were each re-elected.

Bro. A. H. Crowe, Chairman Committee on Foreign Correspondence—all of Halifax.

NEW BRUNSWICK, 1878.

The pamphlet before us contains the transactions of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick, had at the twelfth and thirteenth Annual Communications each held at St. John.

September 25th and 26th, 1878.

M.·. W.·. Robert T. Clinch, G.·. M.·., presiding.

Seventeen lodges represented.

Thirty-three on the roll.

The corner stone of a new city hall in St. John had been laid by the Grand Master, on the request of the municipal authorities, and also that of a new Masonic Hall.

The Grand Secretary reported having made considerable progress in replacing the Grand Lodge library lost by the fire of 1877.

M.·. W.·. Robert Marshall, was elected Grand Master.

“V.·. W.·.” William F. Bunting, re-appointed Grand Secretary, both of St. John.

1879.

April 30th and May 1st, 1879.

M.·. W.·. Robert Marshall, G.·. M.·., presiding.

Twenty-one lodges represented.

One dispensation for a new lodge issued during the year.

Transactions of local interest.

The Grand Secretary reported that each lodge in the Province had made returns; that there were no arrearages, and that no cause for discipline had been reported.

M. . W. . Robert Marshall, re-elected Grand Master.

V. . W. . William F. Bunting, re-appointed Grand Secretary.

NEW MEXICO, 1879.

The First Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of New Mexico was held at Sante Fe, January 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th and 11th, 1879.

M. . W. . William W. Griffin, G. . M. ., presiding.

Four lodges represented.

In the Territory of New Mexico there were seven lodges, each holding a charter from the Grand Lodge of Missouri. August 6th, 1877, delegates from three of the lodges met in convention and organized a Grand Lodge. In a note the Grand Secretary says that a fourth lodge appointed delegates to the convention, but they failed to attend, however it gave in its adhesion, and was represented at the first annual communication. Of the remaining three, two declined to affiliate with the organization, and the charter of the third was arrested by the Grand Master of Missouri and its property turned over to the Grand Treasurer.

Missouri, by resolution, formally recognized the Grand Lodge of New Mexico, and ceded the dues of the four lodges to the new Grand Lodge; but says of the others,

She loves her children, and very cheerfully gave them her blessing when they "went to housekeeping." She regrets that all did not heartily unite in the organization. We think it mistaken policy for just two lodges to refuse co-operation, after the organization is an accomplished fact. The mother Grand Lodge will not force (if she could) the two lodges into undesired union with the new Grand Lodge; nor will she leave them like

"Mary of the wild moor,"

to freeze and die, out in the cold. They are her children still; but they can live longer and fare better by uniting their fortunes with the Grand Lodge where they are located.

Quite a number of Grand Lodges have adopted resolutions of recognition. We may be obtuse, but the question arises, acknowledgment of what?

Regularity in organization? As there is no masonic authority

superior to that of a Grand Lodge, and as the Grand Lodges have never entered into a covenant declaring or prescribing rules for the organization of a new Grand Lodge, each is left to its own discretion in the determination of regularity.

Numbers do not count, Rhode Island had but two constituents and it as a Grand Lodge is second to none. We can conceive of no legal reason to refuse to New Mexico regularity of organization.

Exclusive jurisdiction within the limits of the territory? So far as our concurrent rights are concerned, and which we by this act surrender; or, that in our opinion you should have exclusive jurisdiction, to that extent we can understand recognition; but, to say *you have of right*—with all that such declaration implies, until all parties in interest have surrendered their rights, appears to us to be an attempt at force, coercion, intimidation, or to use a popular word, bulldozing.

We admit that after the formation of a Grand Lodge in new territory, no Grand Lodge should exercise its concurrent rights by the establishment of a lodge, whether it had established one previous thereto or not.

We are aware that in giving publicity to the opinions, here and *anti*-expressed, we shall be criticised, but we believe that we are sustained by the principles that underlie the foundation of the masonic institution, and that the second sober thought will so acknowledge.

We recognize or acknowledge that the Grand Lodge of New Mexico is a regularly organized body; that it has exclusive jurisdiction over the territory occupied by its constituent lodges; that no Grand Lodge can of right establish a new lodge in the territory, because the whole territory is occupied by it and the lodges holding charters from Missouri; and that whenever the Missouri lodges in the territory affiliate with it or cease to exist, then the Grand Lodge of New Mexico will have, and of right, exclusive jurisdiction.

The Grand Junior Warden died during the year and a memorial page in the proceedings is inscribed to his memory.

Transactions of local interest, mainly devoted to perfecting the organization, indicate that those at the helm are masons of ability.

The report on Foreign Correspondence, presented by Bro. Miller, compares favorably with those of the older Grand Lodges. M.: W.: William W. Griffin, Grand Master.

R.: W.: David J. Miller, Grand Secretary—and is also Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee—were each re-elected, both of Santa Fe.

OHIO, 1879.

The Sixty-ninth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ohio was held at Dayton, October 15th and 16th, 1879.

M.: W.: William M. Cunningham, G.: M.:, presiding.

Four hundred and twenty lodges represented.

Five hundred and sixteen on the roll.

Three dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

The Grand Master found it necessary to incorporate in his report:

Complaint has been made by brethren in different parts of the State concerning the compilation of the printed proceedings of this Grand Body for 1877.

As, upon examination, it will be found that the so called printed proceedings of this Grand Lodge for the year mentioned contains so much matter therein entirely foreign to the frequently expressed views of this Grand Body, that the title "Proceedings of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, of the State of Ohio," is an evident misnomer. In this connection also, the injection of personal opinions in the "head lines" of the daily transactions of this Grand Body, whilst it was in session, as on pages 38 and 39, the insertion of individual opinions of the compiler in vindication of his personal views upon questions heretofore settled by this Grand Lodge, and the compilation of matter contrary to its previously expressed views concerning bodies with which this Grand Body is not in communication, is a breach of masonic etiquette that should not be permitted to pass unnoticed at my hands.

The long and faithful service, however, of the Grand Officer entrusted by you with the duties of compilation, warrants me in the believing that it is only necessary to call his attention thereto, in this official manner, to prevent its repetition in the future.

The Grand Master referred his decisions to the Committee on Jurisprudence before the opening. From the report, we select:

A lodge must be closed after funeral ceremonies, and the brethren must return to the lodge for that purpose, unless excused by the W. M.

* * * * *

An applicant who has lost his legal residence within the State, must, upon his return thereto, reside a full year within the jurisdiction of a lodge before action can be had upon his petition for initiation.

* * * * *

Held, That it is improper for a subordinate lodge to receive due bills for annual dues; that it is an evasion of the regulations of the Grand Lodge to re-instate suspended members upon receipt of such due bills, and that any such action would be void and of no effect.

* * * * *

Dues may be remitted for cause by a subordinate lodge, but in all cases such lodge is amenable to the Grand Lodge for Grand Dues in such cases.

A Committee of Investigation preferring charges must not be considered in the light of "accusers," their interest being that of the lodge according to their appointment, and not of any personal nature.

* * * * *

Held, That it is improper to furnish a transcript of the minutes from a lodge journal for use in the courts, unless required by the courts.

* * * * *

Objections against a visitor, to be effective, must be made by the objector at each meeting, unless such objections are stated to the lodge, and are of such a nature as to render the visiting brother unworthy of the right of visitation. In the last named case the objection once made would be sufficient until properly removed.

A lodge cannot suspend a brother for non-attendance of lodge meetings, nor impose any fine for such non-attendance.

Transactions, the usual routine, of local interest.

No report on Foreign Correspondence.

M. W. William M. Cunningham, Newark, Grand Master.

R. W. John D. Caldwell, Cincinnati, Grand Secretary—
were each re-elected.

Bro. Alexis Cope, Columbus, Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee.

OREGON, 1879.

The Twenty-ninth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Oregon was held at Portland, June 9th, 10th and 11th, 1879.

M. W. Robert Clow, G. M., presiding.

Sixty-two lodges represented.

Seventy-one on the roll.

Three dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

Among the decisions reported, we note :

Question No. 1.—Some two years since, B. was elected to receive the degrees of masonry in our lodge, but before he was initiated an objection was lodged against him. The objector is now dimitted and resides in the jurisdiction of another lodge. Can he receive the degrees without a new petition and ballot?

Answer.—Yes. He was elected to receive the degrees by unanimous ballot: he then became the property of your lodge, and, by the terms of the contract, became possessed of a certain right, to-wit: to receive the degrees in conformity with ancient usage. The objection does not deprive him of the right thus acquired, but simply places it in abeyance, and he is restored to full possession of the right upon the withdrawal of the objection, death or dismission from the lodge of the objector; and the lodge is in duty bound to perform its part of the contract by conferring the degrees, unless another objection is interposed.

Question No. 2.—At the last stated communication of our lodge, a resolution was adopted prohibiting members who are in arrears over one year from voting at the annual election of officers, unless by unanimous consent. Is such action legal?

Answer.—No.

No. 1 was reversed by the Grand Lodge on report of a majority of the Committee on Jurisprudence.

The Grand Lodge has an Educational Fund of \$18,404.82.

The following was adopted :

Be it resolved, By the Grand Lodge of Oregon, That any lodge within this jurisdiction may, at a stated communication, elect any Master Mason, who has been a contributing member of any lodge for a term not less than twenty years, an honorary member of such lodge.

Resolved, That all honorary members shall be relieved from the payment of lodge dues, and the subordinate lodges from the payment of Grand Lodge dues for such members; furthermore,

Resolved, That no lodge in this jurisdiction shall be required to pay Grand Lodge [dues upon indigent masons who are supported at the expense of the lodge.

* * * * *

Resolved, That no petition for a dimit shall be granted unless the applicant show that he is about to remove from the jurisdiction of the lodge, or for the purpose of joining a lodge having concurrent jurisdiction with the lodge from which the brother desires to dimit.

A new departure, the latter.

From the address of the Grand Orator, Bro. J. R. N. Bell, we quote :

“ There are three lessons that I would write,
Three words as with a burning pen,
In letters of eternal light,
Upon the hearts of men.

“ Have faith ! where'er thy bark is driven,
The calms' disport, the tempests' mirth,
Know this : God rules the hosts of heaven,
The inhabitants of earth.

“ Have Hope ! though clouds environ now
And gladness hide her face in scorn,
Put then the shadow from thy brow,
No night but has its morn.

“ Have Love ! and not alone for one,
But man, as man, thy brother call,
And scatter as the circling sun
Thy charities on all.

“ Thus 'grave these lessons on thy soul,
Faith ! Hope ! and Love ! and thou shalt find
Strength, when life's surges cease to roll ;
Light, where thou else wert blind.”

Bro. S. F. Chadwick presented, as usual, a well written, judiciously composed report on Foreign Correspondence, the proceedings of thirty-seven Grand Lodges are passed in review, Minnesota among the number.

Under the head of Colorado, he says :

The Grand Master thinks the time has come when uniform work should be supplied to all lodges. It would be a good thing, rather novel in its way. We have witnessed ever so many attempts to supply lodges with

uniform work. Grand Lecturers have been appointed, etc., but the whole thing was a failure. Make them do the best they can. All have the features. The features are all the same; they cannot be changed; but in presenting them brethren will mix words, and confound them sometimes. But they cannot get lost; they will blunder through, and all know when they get to the end. Attention to what they have got will help some.

Under the head of Montana, we find :

We observe that our brethren have adopted "Rules of Order" in the lodge. This seems a little odd. Why not adopt some manual on parliamentary usage? We fear that this leads to more controversy than should be had in a masonic lodge. It certainly compromises the authority of the Master. In fact, after awhile, he would appear to have but little decision that the "eloquent gentlemen" were bound to respect.

We have room but for one more extract, selected from under the head Grand Orient of France :

The belief in the existence of God is so deeply implanted in the human heart that all enlightened nations act upon and are governed by it. All institutions reared for the advancement and amelioration of mankind are founded upon these great articles of faith—a belief in the existence of God, the immortality of the soul, and the resurrection of the dead. They are the never-failing hope of the good man and the constant joy of the mourner. Are not these moral lessons received and publicly confessed one day in seven, the world over, and an absolute dependence acknowledged upon Deity? Is he not declared to be the Father Almighty, and so religiously proclaimed? Do not all intelligent beings—or nearly all—accept these as truths as fast as they realize that "He made us, and not we ourselves?" This belief becomes conviction, and the faith that flows from it manifests itself in the worship and charities of the good everywhere.

M. W. Rockey P. Earhart, Portland, Grand Secretary for seven years past, was elected Grand Master.

R. W. I. W. Pratt, Portland, elected Grand Secretary.

Bro. S. F. Chadwick, Roseburg, Chairman Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

PENNSYLVANIA, 1878.

We have the "Abstract of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge

during the year 1878." The Annual Communication was held in Philadelphia, December 27th.

R. W. Michael Nisbet, D. G. M., presiding.

Sixty-nine lodges represented.

Five hundred and fifty-two on the roll.

In the installation address of the new Grand Master, we find:

There is one other subject to which we wish to call especial attention. That of Worshipful Masters inviting a brother to deliver a lecture to his lodge, or at the request of a brother desirous of showing his knowledge, permitting him to lecture before the lodge. No brother has a right to lecture before any lodge without permission of the Grand Master, and hereafter all lectures are prohibited, and will be stopped, unless such permission is first obtained.

The printing or publishing of any part of the proceedings of a lodge are prohibited, and the brethren who in their anxiety to furnish an item for the newspapers to which they are attached, furnished for publication the vote at the late election in detail, are fraternally admonished not to repeat the offence.

* * * * *

Our system of charity differs considerably from what is considered masonic charity in some of the jurisdictions, where they give a sum of money to a needy brother, and then notify his lodge of the amount given with a direct request for its return, or else so strong a hint that its return would afford satisfaction to the grantor, that it amounts to the same thing.

This appears more like making a loan than bestowing charity, for if the lodge to which the needy brother belongs returns the amount given him, it becomes the giver and not the body that temporarily granted the assistance.

With us the applicant has but to prove his or her right to apply, and that they are in need, and assistance is granted them unconditionally.

A report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing a review of the proceedings of forty-six Grand Lodges—those of Minnesota included—was presented. Suffice to say that the report is from the pen of Past Grand Master Richard Vaux, to commend it to the masonic world as a clear-headed, logical document. He is quick to conceive the point in a question, reaches a conclusion in a few words, and yet one finds it a difficult matter to combat his opinions.

Relative to New Mexico, he says, under the head of Massachusetts:

We would take the liberty to remark upon a subject of so much importance as the recognition of another Grand Body, that the report excludes an adverse conclusion, but does not conclude an adverse exclusion, for there are no reasons given, and the facts are assumed. Were the three lodges that formed this Grand Lodge all the lodges in the territory, and has their mother Grand Lodge recognized their action?

Under the head of Michigan, we find :

The Grand Lodge adopted a resolution that the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage by a mason is a masonic offence, and if he persists in selling or manufacturing after admonition he must be suspended or expelled. Personally, individually, we are gratified to find that it is therefore permitted to any mason in Michigan to drink as much as he chooses, provided a profane man makes or sells the article. We just hint at this for the satisfaction of those of the craft who under the mistake that drinking is prohibited, might have been prevented from visiting the Grand Lodge of Michigan.

Under the head of Missouri, he says :

We are sorry to see the use, in many masonic jurisdictions, of the word legal as applied to masonic action. In our opinion the word lawful is the only masonic word that can be used to express what is not expressed by the word legal, in ordinary phraseology. It by no means follows that what is legal is lawful in masonry: as, for example, the Grand Master decided that the record of a criminal court, showing indictment, conviction, and sentence of the accused for the same offence for which he is being tried in a lodge, is legal and competent evidence, and must be admitted at his masonic trial. It never could be so admitted as legal evidence in such a trial, unless it was lawful masonic information. The seal of a court imparts no masonic character to testimony, and however competent it may be as legal evidence in profane tribunals, it requires something else to make it lawful masonic information.

M. . W. . Michael Nisbet, was elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . John Thomson, re-elected Grand Secretary. P. O. address—Masonic Temple, Broad Street, Philadelphia.

PRINCE EDWARD'S ISLAND, 1879.

The fourth Annual Communication was held at Charlottetown, June 24th, 1879.

M.·. W.·. John Yeo, G.·. M.·., presiding.

Ten lodges represented.

Twelve on the roll.

One dispensation for a new lodge issued during the year.

The Grand Lodges of England and Ireland have formally recognized the independence of the Grand Lodge of Prince Edward's Island. The Grand Lodge of Scotland offered to do the same under certain restrictions which the Grand Lodge refused to ratify.

Transactions of local interest.

The lodges in the jurisdiction appear to be prosperous, and the craft harmonious. May they so continue.

No report on Foreign Correspondence.

M.·. W.·. John Yeo, Post Hill, re-elected Grand Master.

R.·. W.·. George W. Wakeford, Charlottetown, elected Grand Secretary.

QUEBEC, 1878.

The Ninth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Quebec was held at Montreal, September 25th and 26th, 1878.

M.·. W.·. M. M. Tait, G.·. M.·., presiding.

Fifty-three lodges represented.

Sixty-three on the roll.

The address of the Grand Master is mainly confined to a report of the situation as between Quebec and Scotland. Several of the American Grand Lodges have taken action with reference to the difficulty, the whole of which is based upon the jurisdictional question.

The lodges in the British Possessions, north of the United States, were organized by the Grand Lodges of England, Scotland and Ireland, each exercising concurrent jurisdiction—by the way, the word jurisdiction had not entered into their masonic vocabulary—each had Provincial Grand Lodges working in the same territory peaceably and harmoniously.

For, to them, good and sufficient reasons, some twenty-four years since, delegates from a large number of bodies met in convention and organized an Independent Grand Lodge for Canada ;

quite an equal number at the time declined to enter into the arrangement, and continued their allegiance to their Mother Grand Lodge, numbers of them, however, gradually fell into line.

The Mother Grand Lodges finally acknowledged the Grand Lodge of Canada, upon the basis that those lodges that chose should continue their allegiance to the Mother Grand Lodge. The American Grand Lodges that had held aloof during the discussions entered into fraternal relations, and the Grand Lodge of Canada was regarded as having possession of the whole country—peace and harmony prevailing.

Subsequently the British Government changed somewhat the form of government, constituting the territory into six named provinces—a division somewhat analogous to our division of States into counties—the whole known as the Dominion of Canada.

Soon after this political change movements were inaugurated to establish Independent Grand Lodges in the provinces. The Grand Lodge of Quebec was organized, and after a struggle, running through some years, received the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

There was one lodge located within the Province of Quebec which held its charter from the Grand Lodge of Scotland; one of the lodges which, by the concordant, was recognized by the Grand Lodge of Canada to be in affiliation with its Mother Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge of Scotland recognized the Grand Lodge of Quebec upon the same basis that it had that of Canada years previous. Quebec refused such recognition, although representatives had been exchanged, and demanded, as of right, exclusive jurisdiction.

This action, we think, was a grave error, in policy at least. The concordant was made years before; long before a Grand Lodge of Quebec was thought of; long before there was a Province of Quebec; concurred in by the lodges which had long afterwards united in its formation; and there had never been any trouble with the lodges in consequence of their allegiance. No attempt should have been made to disturb the old concordant; all the subsequent trouble would thus have been avoided.

The Grand Lodge of Scotland withdrew its representative; declared the Province of Quebec unoccupied territory; proceeded

to establish two new lodges and appoint a Provincial Grand Master.

“Two wrongs never made a right.” In this action the Grand Lodge of Scotland was clearly wrong.

The Grand Lodge of England extended to the Grand Lodge of Quebec the same recognition as was extended by Scotland, but it was also refused. The Grand Lodge of England, however, has respected the original concordant, retains its authority over its own lodges, but has not attempted to establish new ones. Had Scotland done the same, the American Grand Lodges could not have been arrayed against her as they are.

“Go slow” is a mighty good adage. Here is the whole masonic world thrown into disputations, discussions and taking of sides because of the hasty action of two Grand Bodies, which, after all, can only be settled by themselves.

A capital report on Foreign Correspondence, full and complete, embracing a review of the proceedings of fifty-two Grand Lodges—those of Minnesota included—was presented by Bro. W. Simpson Walker.

We have, in the past forty years, read many, very many, reports on Foreign Correspondence, and we assure our Bro. that his “first effort” requires no apology for imperfections or appeal “for charitable consideration.”

M. . W. . M. M. Tait, Grand Master.

R. . W. . John H. Isaacson, Grand Secretary, were each re-elected—both of Montreal.

1879.

The Tenth Annual Communication was also held at Montreal, September 24th and 25th, 1879.

M. . W. . M. M. Tait, G. . M. ., presiding.

Forty-nine lodges represented.

Sixty-three on the roll.

The Grand Master announced that he had appointed a committee to visit England and confer personally with the Grand Officers, to bring about, if possible, a solution of the questions in dispute between the two Grand Lodges. He recommended, as an

economical measure, a reduction in the number of the Board of General Purposes, as also of its meetings.

Numerous notices were given of amendments to the constitution, to be proposed at the next annual session.

In the city of Montreal there are seventeen lodges holding charters from the Grand Lodge of Quebec, three from that of England, and three from that of Scotland. We do not see how two of the latter, having been chartered after the organization of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, can be recognized as regular.

It is unfortunate, at least, to have three claimants to jurisdiction in the same city.

No report on Foreign Correspondence.

M. W. John H. Grahom, Richmond, elected Grand Master.

R. W. J. H. Isaacson, Montreal, re-elected Grand Secretary.

RHODE ISLAND, 1878.

The Eighty-eighth Annual Communication was held at Providence, May 20th, 1878.

M. W. Charles R. Cutler, G. M., presiding.

Twenty-nine lodges represented.

Thirty-three on the roll.

Transactions of local interest.

Embraced in the pamphlet are the proceedings had at a special communication called "to dedicate the Roger Williams Monument"

A eulogy on masonry was spoken by the Grand Chaplain, Bro. H. W. Rugg, and an oration of much historic interest delivered by Professor J. Lewis Diman, of Brown University.

M. W. Charles R. Cutler, Warren, Grand Master.

R. W. Edwin Baker, Providence, Grand Secretary—were each re-elected.

1879.

The Eighty-ninth Annual Communication was held May 19th, at Providence.

M. W. C. R. Cutler, G. M. presiding.

Thirty lodges represented.

Thirty-five on the roll.

One dispensation for a new lodge during the year.

Total receipts of the Grand Lodge, \$2467.18.

Total expenditures of the same, \$2382.78.

The lodges are prosperous, and the craft harmonious in Rhode Island. So may it ever continue.

M. W. Edward L. Freeman, Central Falls, was elected Grand Master.

R. W. Edwin Baker, Providence, re-elected Grand Secretary.

SOUTH CAROLINA, 1878.

The One Hundred and Second Annual Communication was held at Charleston, December 10th and 11th, 1878.

M. W. B. W. Ball, G. M., presiding.

One hundred and fifty-six lodges represented.

Two hundred on the roll.

Considerable business of local interest was transacted.

In the pamphlet containing the proceedings, we find an address on the History of Free Masonry in South Carolina, by P. G. M. W. G. Desaussure, in which he claims to prove that the Grand Lodge of South Carolina was the first Independent Grand Lodge organized in the United States. The address is very useful and interesting to the masonic student. We can furnish a little collateral evidence of some of his propositions. We have in our library a dimit of which we give a copy:

CHARLES TOWN IN SOUTH CAROLINA, No 1.

These do certify that Mr. Edward Langford is a Master Mason, and by report of some of our brethren that he has acted as a Master of a Regular Lodge in Bladen County, North Carolina; and being a true and faithful *Brother* is hereby recommended to the favor of all free and accepted Masons, wheresoever dispersed. Given under our hands and seal in the *Provincial Lodge, 16 day of December in the vulgar year of Masonry, 5736.

EGERTON LEIGH,
THOMAS EVERANCE, } Wardens.

[SEAL]

SAMUEL CARNE, Master.
JOB MILNOR, Secretary.

This dimit has been in our possession for over twenty-five years. We had it with us and read it to Solomon's Lodge in

* The word Provincial is erased and Solomon's written over it.

1866 or 1867, when we had the pleasure of installing Gov. J. L. Orr, as Grand Master of South Carolina. It helps to fill up a little hiatus in Bro. Desaussure's address.

Bro. Chas. Inglesby presented an admirable report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing a review of the proceedings of fifty Grand Lodges—those of Minnesota included.

We are progressing to the near end of our report, and find that it has assumed a volume much more than we prescribed in the beginning, hence we must deny ourself the pleasure of making extracts from the one before us.

M. W. Augustine T. Smythe, was elected Grand Master.

R. W. Charles Inglesby, re-elected Grand Secretary—both of Charleston.

TENNESSEE, 1878.

The Sixty-fifth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee was held at Nashville, November 11th and 12th, 1878.

M. W. Americus V. Warr, G. M., presiding.

Two hundred and ninety-eight lodges represented.

Five hundred on the roll.

The Grand Master closes his eulogy of the brethren deceased during the year with the following :

Grand heroes of the fever,
How silently you trod the path of death !
Bidding farewell forever
To friends, and homes, you sought the poisonous breath
That floats in desolation
Through cabin windows and through palace doors,
Spares neither age nor station,
And mocks at science as it spreads its spores.

He who in darkness hideous
Enters a horrid cavern full of fright,
Descends a path insidious,
And leaves all hope behind him with the light,
Displays no greater daring
Than those who seek the fever in its den,
To front a foe unsparing,
And give their lives to save their fellow-men.

No form will shine more whitely
About the glorious throne of heaven than yours;
No names are writ more brightly
Upon the page which deathless life secures.
Grand is the simple story
That tells your fight and most heroic fall—
Yours is the truest glory.

The Grand Secretary presented a detailed report of his receipts and expenditures on account of yellow fever fund.

A Lodge of Sorrow was held, at which eloquent addresses were delivered by W.·. Henry J. Lynn—never have we read a more beautiful eulogy than his on P.·. G.·. M.·. Wheeler—P.·. G.·. M.·. James D. Richardson, &c.

No report on Foreign Correspondence.

Bro. Frizzell's time was so continually occupied in extending relief to and disbursing funds for the yellow fever sufferers, that he had no opportunity to prepare a report. The apology is ample.

M.·. W.·. George C. Connor, Chattanooga, was elected Grand Master.

R.·. W.·. John Frizzell, Nashville, re-elected Grand Secretary.

TEXAS, 1878.

The Forty-third Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Texas was held at Houston, December 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th and 16th, 1878.

M.·. W.·. Norton Moses, G.·. M.·., presiding.

One hundred and ten lodges represented.

Four hundred and ninety-nine on the roll.

Eleven dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

The address of the Grand Master was confined to a report of his official acts.

The various committees presented elaborate reports, particularly the one on the proposed Orphan's Home.

A Lodge of Sorrow was held in memory of those who had died during the year.

The chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, J. B. Likens died during the year, before commencing the work,

and Bro. E. H. Cushing was prevailed upon to again accept the position at the eleventh hour.

Bro. Cushing had a marked place in the reportorial corps, and this his last report although prepared in a hurry is well worth preservation. He died during the year, after the report was made.

The report embraces a review of the proceedings of fifty-three Grand Lodges—those of Minnesota included.

Under the head of New York, he says.

Certainly the so-called decisions of Grand Masters, which are no more than opinions of fallible men, and not always wise at that, have had more weight than the good of the institution justifies. As an umpire for the time being the Grand Master is a necessity. But beyond the occasion his opinions should have nothing more than advisory force. He certainly cannot make law, nor can his interpretations of law become landmarks without a very substantial action of the Grand Lodge. Most of the so-called decisions given are repetitions of thrice-told tales, and add nothing to the information of the craft, or to the symmetry and compactness of Grand Masters' addresses. We believe the fraternity would happily survive their entire suppression. In fact, the reverence paid to Grand Master's decisions in some jurisdictions, is absurd to the last degree. While they assume a legislative aspect, it is treason to Freemasonry to respect them at all. A Grand Master has not a particle more right to make a law than has an individual mason.

Under the head of Quebec, he says :

Suppose England and Scotland and those lodges refuse to obey—what then? Can these lodges be declared clandestine? And will declaring them so, make them so? The question is one that occurs in another jurisdiction, and one that, it seems to us, is not to be peremptorily answered. These lodges were legally constituted by the Grand Lodge of England. For reasons satisfactory to the members, and the nature of which is readily surmised, they wish to retain their allegiance. England as a government, holds primary authority over the Province of Quebec. Can a body that has established itself there undertake to compel the allegiance of these lodges against the consent of both themselves and the Grand Lodge of England? There are rights of conquest, and there are inalienable rights. Conquest may compel submission, but allegiance under compulsion is not conducive to good feeling.

Under the head of Exclusive Jurisdiction, he says :

There is very far from unanimity among foreign Grand Lodges. A number of them regard not only territory already occupied as lawful ground for them to work in, but more especially that they have the right to make masons of whom they will, no matter where they hail from and what may be the local law. Lodges in Scotland have recently initiated American citizens from at least two of our jurisdictions, and when remonstrated with have asserted their right to do so, and apparently with success. Among the claims is that of immemorial usage, and that too dating back beyond the formation of Grand Lodges themselves. Those who plant themselves immovably on landmarks have no possible reply to the argument. The usage antedates landmarks.

* * * * *

As to whether, when a Grand Lodge is formed in unoccupied territory, all the Lodges in that territory are obliged to change their allegiance to it is an open question. It has been made so by the action of the Grand Lodge of Canada in the very matter referred to. It is a question that has two sides. On the one hand, the Grand Lodge taking possession of the territory may well say that masonry within its bounds should be an autonomy, and that two lines of legislation within such bounds must lead to trouble. On the other, lodges can say and do say that their allegiance is a right that cannot be legislated upon by any power in which they have no part. So long as they are pleased to maintain their allegiance to the body that gave them their charter, and called them into being, they claim that it is beyond the power of any other body to interrupt that relationship. This question has practically occurred in our neighboring Indian Territory, Alpha Lodge, in which still refuses to sever its allegiance to the Grand Lodge of Kansas. In the Quebec case the lodges holding allegiance to Scotland have been pronounced irregular and intercourse with them interdicted. The same has been done in the Indian Territory. This forces the issue, and in this issue our own sympathies are with the recusant lodges. We do not believe in forcibly depriving any man or body of men of original rights. It cannot be done, and all forceful legislation to that end is wrong and leads to evil. The Quebec lodges cannot be deprived of their Scottish and English charters. Alpha Lodge cannot be compelled to give up its Kansas charter. These charters were regularly granted, and the work under them has been recognized by the masonic world. Acts done by other lodges in which they had no part and to which they gave no consent cannot affect that work. The lodges are regular. But when Scotland in reprisal undertakes to cure one wrong by another, it commits a very grave error, and one that calls for the consideration of all Grand Lodges. If Quebec, recognized by the whole masonic world as an Independent Grand Lodge, with territory that three-fourths of the masonic world declares to be thereafter inviolable, is to be foraged upon by Scotland in revenge, there is a call for outspoken opinion. Scotland

claims to be older than landmarks. Scotland must be taught that however old and gray masonry may be, that it is not as old, nor as strong as the great and everlasting Present, with its necessities, its responsibilities and its powers; and that six hundred thousand American masons cannot and will not be slighted in their views, and overthrown as to their rights without remonstrance, backed by ample power to enforce it.

It is to be hoped that wise and temperate counsels will prevail on both side, and that a settlement of the questions will be had without a call upon our Grand Lodges to take action. And in reaching this settlement, it is proper that both sides should remember that in diplomacy it is never wise in one party to place the other where a back down is necessary. Quebec in placing the issue in this shape erred, and will have to retrace its steps. Scotland, in declaring Québec unoccupied territory, has committed an offense upon the whole body of American masonry, and will have to retrace its steps. These things are plain, and being plain, the sooner both parties see them the better.

Regarding the right claimed by Scotland lodges to initiate American citizens, who may be sojourning in Scotland, that must be conceded. We cannot prevent it, nor can we compel Scotland to our rules on its own territory.

In his "Conclusion" we find:

The more important matters now before the various Grand Lodges, are:

1. *Organized Charitable Institutions.*—These seem to be successful in Georgia, North Carolina and Kentucky. They have not been successful elsewhere. The main factor in the success of those that are successful is some self-sacrificing and devoted person who has the enterprise and application requisite to shoulder the load and carry it through. It is to be seen whether the institutions will survive the life of their founders.
2. *Refunding money where it has been dispensed in Charity.*—The universal conclusion is that this may be done voluntarily, but cannot be demanded as a just claim.
3. *Compulsory attention to the sick, and a fixed stipend when so disabled.*—This also has no advocates among Grand Masters and Reporters on Correspondence; nor any countenance in any Grand Lodge.
4. *Suspension for Nonpayment of Dues.*—The weight of opinion is in favor of simply dropping from the roll without degradation, though suspension is practiced in the majority of Grand Lodges.
5. *Compulsory Lodge Membership.*—But few Grand Lodges forbid dimission at the pleasure of the individual. New York still maintains the practice, not permitting a dimit except to join another lodge.

6. *Divine Authenticity of the Bible.*—The weight of authority is in favor of the Texas view, though quite a number of zealous masons dissent.

7. *Physical Qualifications.*—There is a growing disposition towards strict construction of the rule of "sound in mind and member," though few Grand Lodges yet come up to the Texas view. Strict construction is gaining ground.

The stringency of the times is telling upon the membership of lodges. For the first time in forty years the total membership is declining. The falling off, as shown by the table, is nearly three per cent. This will doubtless prove but temporary, and with a more prosperous era for the country the membership will begin to grow again.

M.: W.: John B. Jones, Austin, was elected Grand Master.

R.: W.: G. H. Bringhurst, Houston, re-elected Grand Secretary.

Bro. J. H. McLeary, San Antonio, Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee.

Both the Grand Lodge of Texas and Minnesota meet during the first part of January. The action of either cannot receive the official notice of the other until the expiration of a year. A matter has occurred, which was only known after the adjournment of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, deserves wider publicity than it would probably receive as a foot note to the report of the Grand Secretary.

The Grand Lodge of Minnesota learning through the medium of the printed proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Texas, that it had re-imburSED to one of its subordinates expenses incurred in caring for the remains of Grand Master Braden, while in transitu at Houston, directed that the amount should be returned to the Grand Lodge of Texas; which was done, and the receipt thereof reported to the Grand Lodge of Texas by the Grand Secretary at its session January, 1880, and was by the Grand Lodge promptly returned. See official communication in foot note to Grand Secretary's report, p. 28, *anti*.

We are irresistibly led to—in thought—contrast this action of the Grand Lodge of Texas, with those bodies who render bills and demand payment for sums ostensibly disbursed in *charity*, but we forbear.

Again we say, God bless the masons of Texas; may their cof-

fers always be full to enable them to be as charitable as they are generous.

UTAH, 1879.

Thanks to Grand Secretary Diehl, to whom we are indebted for advanced sheets of the proceedings, the Grand Lodge of Utah, had at its Eighth Annual Communication held at Salt Lake City, November 11th and 12th, 1879.

R. W. Frank Tilford, D. G. M., presiding.

Six—all the lodges in the jurisdiction—were represented.

The Grand Master was unavoidably absent, but sent his report. Among his decisions, we note :

1. A soldier or seafaring man gains masonic residence wherever temporarily located; otherwise, that large body of useful men might be forever debarred from the privileges of the institution.

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3. A Junior Warden has the right to preside over the lodge in the absence of the Master and Senior Warden, but is not entitled to fill the position of Senior Warden in his absence; he may be assigned to it by courtesy of the Master.

In the report of the Deputy Grand Master, we find :

Among the many good works done by the masonic fraternity of Utah, no act deserves more commendation, or has resulted in greater benefit to the community, than the establishment of the library. It is a gratifying fact, that not only the members of our association, but a numerous class of readers outside of our lodges have drawn largely on its stores. The influences which radiate from such sources are silent and unseen forces, yet ever active and all-potent, working in the cause of virtue and happiness.

Every dollar devoted to an institution which promotes a love of letters, and the diffusion of knowledge in our fraternity, and throughout the community, will yield noble and enduring returns.

* * * * *

First.—I respectfully recommend to the Grand Lodge that a resolution be adopted requiring all Masters in this jurisdiction to have the Ancient Landmarks, Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge read, at least once a year, at a regular meeting, and such portions of the standing Orders and Resolutions, approved Decisions and Code of Jurisprudence as they may deem advisable.

The question has been often asked of the writer, Does the masonic lodges in Utah admit Mormons? In reply, we reproduce selections from a report of the Committee on Grievance and Appeal. Charges of unmasonic conduct were presented against a member of Argenta Lodge; six commissioners were elected to try the case:

The specifications contained in said charges were:—1st. That the said John P. Sorenson, a member of said lodge, on or about the 1st day of April, A. D. 1879, at the city of Salt Lake, in the Territory of Utah, did unite himself, and at this date is in full fellowship with an association of persons commonly known as the Mormon church, whose principles and practices in Utah are in direct violation of the laws of the United States, as well as the laws of morality and common decency.

2nd. That the said John P. Sorenson, on sundry and divers occasions, at Salt Lake City, both before and since the day and year aforesaid, declared himself an advocate of the principles and practice of polygamy, and, by such declaration, is bringing the institution of masonry into disrepute; all of which acts of the said John P. Sorenson were in violation of his duties and obligations as a mason, and to the scandal and disgrace of the masonic fraternity.

The commissioners, by unanimous vote, found the accused guilty, as per the specifications. Five of them concurred in the sentence of expulsion, the other assumed the position that the acts charged did not constitute a masonic offense; reasoning as follows:

2nd. It cannot be sustained, as charged, that he, by joining the Mormon church, became disloyal to the government under which he holds citizenship, as the United States Government has not, as yet, disfranchised any of the believers in the Mormon doctrine, but with a knowledge of all that has been made known about that religious faith, has admitted avowed Mormons to sit among peers and law makers of this great nation.

3rd. The avowal of John P. Sorenson, as declaring himself an advocate of polygamy, does not lay him liable to masonic punishment, unless it should be proven that he himself practiced polygamy, as the advocating of a principle does in no instance admit that the party so advocating it would himself practice it.

For reasons before stated, I cannot join the commissioners in their verdict, and consider it a dangerous precedent, as no man should be put

on trial as to his religious belief, except he openly declares himself an atheist.

The other five commissioners presented as follows :

In submitting to the lodge the judgment in said case, the majority of the commissioners deem the case of sufficient importance to warrant them in setting forth their reasons for the action they have taken. At the outset, we disclaim all intention of interfering with any brother's religious belief, so long as he is a good mason and true, and complies with the theological requirements demanded of him at the threshold of masonry. We will not, as masons, quarrel with a brother should he even set himself up as a prophet of the Most High, provided he leads a moral and upright life, and obeys the laws of the country in which he lives; but when we see a brother deliberately connecting himself with an institution claiming to be religious, which he and every mason, and every intelligent citizen of the territory, knows has for years openly encouraged and enjoined upon the members a practice in direct violation of the law of the land; and when we find a brother upholding and sanctioning that practice, knowing it to be in violation of law, deem it our duty, apart from, and without reference to our bitter abhorrence of the practice itself, degrading and productive of so much misery as it is, to place the seal of condemnation upon the act, so far as it lies in our power as masons to do, relying upon the intelligent judgment of our brethren throughout the territory and civilized world to sustain us in our course. Other and cogent reasons might be adduced, satisfactory at least to the great majority of the fraternity in this territory, why no brother should be permitted to retain his membership in any lodge in this jurisdiction, after having joined the Mormon church organization.

We deem it sufficient, however, to sustain our action, that the brother upholds the violation of law which the Mormon organization sustains and enjoins.

The committee say :

There was evidence introduced at the trial tending to show that polygamy is enjoined and upheld by the Mormon church, but the testimony on this point was not as full or as clear as it might or should have been. However, the view which your committee takes of the case renders any evidence on that point unnecessary. That polygamy is one of the principal tenets of the Mormon faith; that one of the purposes of the Mormon church organization is the promulgation and practice of plural marriage in this territory, in defiance of the laws of congress, the decisions of the courts, and the enlightened moral sentiment of the nation; that in pursuance of this purpose, since the passage of the law of congress, in 1862, against polyg-

amy, a large number of the leaders and laymen of said church have formed, and still continue to form, and live in that relation; and that the whole strength of the Mormon church and its priesthood are being, and in the past have been, brought into requisition, not only in inducing its adherents to continue in the formation of polygamous relations, but in retarding and defeating the execution of the law against this crime, by resort to means, in many instances, both disreputable and criminal, are facts which so vitally affect and interest the community at large, and are so notoriously and universally known as to become a part of the general history of the territory and nation.

As a general rule, masonic tribunals are governed, but not as strictly, by the laws of evidence which prevail in civil courts. The said Sorenson having, of his own free will and accord, joined the Mormon church is conclusively presumed to have done so with full knowledge of its tenets and the practices of its members, and that it was his deliberate intention to co-operate with that body in carrying out its unlawful objects. His conduct in this regard is not different from or less reprehensible than if he had joined some other association organized to commit, foster and protect any other crime; for instance, theft, arson or highway robbery. These crimes stand in the same category with polygamy, and are not less obnoxious to law.

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In masonic jurisprudence many wrongs are punishable which are not so by municipal law, and whether the acts of the said Sorenson are or are not in violation of the laws of the territory or general government makes no difference in this case. Because, by joining the Mormon church conspiracy, the said Sorenson became an abettor of those members of the church who have violated, and are constantly violating, the law against polygamy, and, as such abettor, is morally responsible, although he may not be amenable to civil punishment. As many offenses against morals are punishable by the laws of masonry, which are not so by municipal laws, we think the acts of which the said Sorenson has been proven and found guilty constitutes a masonic offense, rendering him unfit to be continued in the fellowship of the fraternity, and for which he should be promptly expelled. Congress, in permitting an acknowledged polygamist to sit in that body, is a national humiliation which every true citizen deprecates, and which, it is to be hoped, for the honor and dignity of masonry, will never be followed by the fraternity. For the reasons set forth herein, your committee recommend that the judgment of expulsion in this case be affirmed.

The report was unanimously adopted, which sets at rest the attitude of the masons in Utah towards the Mormon church.

The controversy between the Grand Lodges of Scotland and

Quebec engaged the attention of the Grand Lodge of Utah at its previous session, and was referred to a committee to report at the next.

Two able reports were presented, one by Bro. Scott, the Representative of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, the other by Bro. Diehl, Representative of the Grand Lodge of Quebec. Resolutions were appended to both reports.

Bro. Scott says :

In the first place, I yield to none in my devotion to the principle of exclusive Grand Lodge jurisdiction within certain geographical lines, but I hold that the advocacy of even a sound principle may be pushed beyond the verge of reason, and I maintain that every dictate of reason and common sense, as applied to the discussion of the relation of lodges to the Grand Lodge to which they owe their origin, leads us to the conclusion that a relinquishment of that relation, for the purpose of joining a new Grand Lodge erected over the territory where they exist, should, in all cases, be voluntary.

A lodge, for instance, located in one of the territories of the United States, working under a charter from the Grand Lodge of a neighboring State, should no more be compelled to relinquish its charter and join a Grand Lodge formed in that territory after its establishment, than a member of a lodge of that State residing in the territory should be compelled to dimit and affiliate where he resides. Everyone may concede the desirability of the step in either case, but it should be a matter of persuasion and not of compulsion; and I hold it to be capable of demonstration, that, in the case of the lodge, a proper conciliatory spirit on the part of the new Grand Lodge erected over the territory where it is located, coupled with a patient forbearance and a generous display of that great tenet of brotherly love, which is the strongest feature of our institution, would, in every instance, win over the lodge to the new allegiance, because it could not but be apparent, in time, to the members that their interest and their convenience would be promoted by the change.

The human animal, however good he may be, has a considerable quantity of stubbornness imbedded in his nature, and while you may even persuade him to do wrong, you cannot always drive him to do what he knows to be right.

Bro. Diehl says :

American masons must uphold the doctrine of exclusive Grand Lodge supremacy; we cannot tolerate the planting of lodges on American soil by any foreign power, be it Scottish, English, Irish or German.

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Holding, however, that a lodge located in a territory, prior to the establishment of a Grand Lodge therein, cannot be forced to transfer its charter to the new Grand Lodge. But the planting of a new lodge by an outside authority, in a territory where a Grand Lodge already exists, is an invasion of a previously organized jurisdiction, and this was done by the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and she receives for this act, and rightfully, the condemnation of every American Grand Lodge.

After an "animated discussion," the following resolutions were adopted, substituted for the resolutions appended to the reports :

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Quebec was guilty of error in attempting to coerce the lodge Elgin, under Scottish Register, to acknowledge allegiance to it.

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Scotland was guilty of grievous error in chartering new lodges, and commissioning a Provincial Grand Master to work and preside within the territorial jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Quebec.

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Utah deprecates any edicts of non-intercourse with individual masons, made in due and ancient form, no matter what may be the errors of the Grand Lodges under whose jurisdiction they were made: and as to the Grand Lodges so in error, this Grand Lodge will not take any condemnatory action, but only proffer fraternal advice and friendly intervention.

The report on Foreign Correspondence embraces a review of the proceedings of all the Grand Lodges on this side of the Atlantic, and was presented by Bro. Christopher Diehl, who is fast assuming a front rank as a reporter.

Under the head of Dakota, he says :

The difficulties with the Grand Lodge of Minnesota are not yet quite settled, although Shilo Lodge, at Fargo, has withdrawn from Minnesota and joined Dakota, but the other lodge at Bismarck still remains with its mother. Well meaning words and patience are apt to do more in a case like that than harshness. If the brethren of Bismarck Lodge are as hard-headed as their godfather in Germany, bombshells will never do, but diplomacy may bring about the desired result. Try it for once, brethren of Dakota, and, our word for it, it will win.

Concurre. One difficulty which outside brethren do not appear to appreciate is geographical position and relations.

M. . W. . Frank Tilford was elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . Christopher Diehl re-elected Grand Secretary, and is also Chairman Committee on Foreign Correspondence—each of Salt Lake City.

VERMONT.

No reports received from Vermont since 1876, although we have written for them. This we very much regret, not only for the reason that it would be of interest to know what is doing? how prospering? but it spoils our files.

VIRGINIA, 1878.

A Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Virginia was held at Richmond, December 9th, 10th and 11th, 1878.

R. . W. . B. R. Wellford, Jr., G. . M. ., presiding.

One hundred and twenty-two lodges represented.

Two hundred and thirty-three on the roll.

We present an extract from the address of the Grand Master, read it brethren :

Masonry is no religious institution in any sense which can justify contrast or comparison with any branch of the Church of God. That man is the direst foe of masonry who undertakes to proffer its guidance to the troubled conscience which craves to know how guilty man may be just before God, or to delude its votaries with any idea that the most perfect observance of its precepts can insure eternal life. But it is a religious institution in so far as it recognizes that man is by nature and necessity a religious being—with hopes and fears that look beyond the grave, and with an instinctive apprehension of responsibility to the great God in whom we live and move and have our being. It is a religious institution in so far as it recognizes that this great God has revealed His will unto mankind in Holy Writings, without the presence of which no lodge can be lawfully held. It is a religious institution in so far as it teaches that the primary obligation of man is duty to God, and that his secondary obligation—duty to his fellow-man—is to be measured by a standard of morals which, while beautifully consonant with human reason and adapted to all the varying emergencies of individual life, commands acceptance as the infallible rule of human conduct because He wrote it upon tables of stone amid the thunders of Sinai.

From the decisions reported, we select :

2d. That the loss of the use of one eye did not render a candidate ineligible.

3d. That a lodge could not compel a brother to testify in any masonic trial when he stated that his only information about the matter was received under the pledge of masonic confidence.

4th. That a member of a lodge removing to another jurisdiction without announcing his withdrawal from the lodge, or asking a dimit, continues liable to assessment for lodge dues and to the penalty for non-payment.

* * * * *

6th. That a member of a lodge cannot prefer charges against his lodge. His remedy is an appeal from the action of the lodge. If he complains of inaction, he has the right, and it is his duty, to ask action of his lodge, and to make matter of record its refusal to act, and upon such refusal to appeal.

In a special report of Bro. Drinkard, we find :

Except that of Minnesota, which State has a lodge of its obedience within the territory of the Grand Lodge of Dakota. Your committee is decidedly of opinion that the last-named Grand Lodge is in the right in the matter of the troubles between the two Grand Lodges, and entitled to the sympathy of all other Grand Lodges.

* * * * *

Because of the fraternal relations which have always existed between the Grand Lodge of Virginia and the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and because the Grand Lodge of Virginia would not wish to condemn the refusal of the Grand Lodge of Scotland to cast off its old lodges within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, so long as they ask to remain of its obedience.

We are at loss, the two positions are diametrically opposed, and yet the brother sustains or approves both.

By voluntary masonic contributions, a monument has been erected to the memory of John Dove, who had been Grand Secretary for half a century, the monument was unveiled on the third day of the session, in the presence of the Grand Lodge.

Bro. W. F. Drinkard presented a report on Foreign Corres-

pondence, embracing a review of the proceedings of fifty Grand Lodges—those of Minnesota included.

Under the head of Connecticut, he says :

Never pass from the first to the second degree, nor from the second to the first. Always close the Entered Apprentice or the Fellow-Craft lodge, and resume labor in the Master Mason's lodge. It is only in the Master Mason's lodge that the order can be given for opening the other lodges. It is absurd for an Entered Apprentice or Fellow-Craft lodge to order a Fellow-Craft or Entered Apprentice lodge to be opened.

Under District of Columbia, he says :

In Virginia the law provides that he who votes a black ball may reveal the fact.

Under the head of Maine, we find :

One lodge here confers any degree at the request of another lodge, and here the conferring of the third degree does *not* "constitute the recipient a member of the lodge." Free masonry is voluntary all the way through in this State. A Master Mason just made may declare himself a member of the lodge which raised him, or he may elect to apply for membership in another lodge, and his application will there be balloted on.

Under the head of New York, he says :

It should never be forgotten that the master can summon his members by merely oral or verbal notification, and that the lodge need not be consulted in the matter. His power or right cannot be call in question.

M. . W. . B. R. Wellford, Jr., Grand Master.

R. . W. . William B. Isaacs, Grand Secretary—were re-elected.

Bro. William F. Drinkard, Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee. Address of each, Richmond.

WISCONSIN, 1879.

The Thirty-fifth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin was held at Milwaukee, June 10th, 11th and 12th, 1879.

M.: W.: Charles F. G. Collins, G.: M.:, presiding.

One hundred and seventy-five lodges represented.

Two hundred and eleven on the roll.

Two dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

Among the decisions reported, we note :

1. Informal Ballot.

An informal ballot should not be allowed in a masonic lodge.

2. Clandestine Mason.

The fact that a man has been initiated in a clandestine lodge (provided you are satisfied, as stated, that he did not know it to be such,) does not affect his relations to your lodge any more than the fact that he may have been a member of a fire company or any other non-masonic organization.

If he is eligible and worthy, there is no reason why he should not petition and receive the degrees, but he certainly cannot become a mason or a member of your lodge in any other manner.

3. Past Master's Degree.

It is necessary that the Past Master's degree should be conferred upon the Master elect previous to his installation. The degree can be conferred by three actual Past Masters.

* * * * *

5. Residence.

I believe that masonic residence should, as far as possible, correspond with legal residence. Temporary absence does not affect legal residence, provided the party absents himself with the intention of returning, considers this his home, and does not become a legal resident elsewhere.

* * * * *

16. Physical Disqualifications.

Following the oft repeated ruling of this Grand Lodge, I have decided in three cases that loss of an eye disqualifies a candidate; in two cases that loss of the forefinger of the right hand disqualifies; and that a candidate who was near sighted and compelled to wear glasses could be legally made a mason. The last query would seem to be rather a singular one, but viewed in the light of our often repeated decision as to the loss of one eye, there is perhaps some reason to inquire why we should refuse to admit a man having one good eye, and at the same time admit one who is forced to use artificial means to enable him to see to read or write. I am free to admit a considerable "change of heart" in the matter of physical disqualifications, growing out of a thorough consideration of the matter in its various bearings. A comparison of our position in the matter, as compared to that of nearly all other Grand Jurisdictions on this continent,

raises a very grave doubt in my mind as to the strict propriety of our rulings and decisions.

I certainly would not favor admitting the "lame, halt and blind," but sincerely believe that a modification of our rule to conform to our declaration that "the internal, and not the external, qualifications of a man are what masonry regards" would certainly be beneficial, and I cannot see how any possible harm could ensue from making our rule the same as that generally in force in other jurisdictions, viz. : that a candidate should be able to comply with all the requirements of our ceremonies, and capable of giving the means of recognition.

The Grand Secretary, in his report, says, correctly :

1st. It is a law of masonry, that when a man receives the degrees of Entered Apprentice he is a mason to all intents and purposes; Mackey, to the contrary, notwithstanding, entitled to be received and acknowledged as such by all brethren wherever he may sojourn. Silence and secrecy have been enjoined upon him, and he is entitled to all the instruction necessary to his advancement to a higher degree. He has the right to visit whenever the lodge is opened on the first degree. He is liable to trial for unmasonic conduct, and, upon conviction, to be suspended or expelled; from which decision of the lodge he has the right of appeal to the Grand Lodge.

From the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, we select :

1st. Has a lodge the right and the power to summon a brother to sit up or watch with a sick brother when requiring such attendance?

2nd. If a lodge has such a right, has it also the right or power to discipline a brother for refusing to obey such a summons?

We hope, for the honor of Wisconsin masonry, that no case has arisen to render these questions necessary. It is to be hoped that no one who has been admitted to the circle of our brotherhood would refuse to minister to the needs of a sick brother, so far as his ability would permit. While such is clearly the duty of a brother, we do not think a lodge has the right, by its summons, to peremptorily order a member to the bedside of another, under penalty of suspension or expulsion.

The report on Foreign Correspondence was again presented by Bro. Woodhull; it is written in his usual kindly, off-hand style that disarms the criticism which some of its enunciations are open to. The report embraces a critical review of the proceedings of forty-five Grand Lodges, those of Minnesota included.

Tu quoque, Brute? We will not reply to the natural inferences deducible from the matter found in the report on page 159, under the head of Minnesota.

Bro. Woodhull speaks of us, personally, in such terms that we cannot believe that he designed the application which presents itself in a former part of his report; again, he expresses himself as so much pleased with his visits to Minnesota and so kindly of the brethren, that we are at a loss to comprehend his criticisms upon the action of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota at its session of 1879, unless it be that some *ignis fatuus* has obscured his vision, and caused him to jump at conclusions without due examination. It is always well to remember that there may be two or more sides to a proposition, and to reserve judgment until the surroundings have received an examination.

He says:

It, however, appears very strange that they had not had previous official information. The Grand Secretary of Wisconsin had official notice, and courteously acknowledged the receipt of the same, within four weeks after the formation of that Grand Lodge. The Grand Secretary of Minnesota must have mislaid the document or forgotten all about it.

Does it follow that because the Grand Secretary of Wisconsin was favored with a notice, that the Grand Secretary of Minnesota was also so favored?

Is it—fair, then, to declare, without better proof than has been presented, that the Grand Secretary of Minnesota “MUST have mislaid the document or forgotten all about it;” the charge does not apply to the present Grand Secretary, for at that time he was not in office.

Subsequent action has led Minnesota to believe that the omission of information was for a purpose, but after all, that is only a question of courtesy:

Now the facts are, that the Grand Lodge of Minnesota adopted this resolution with the fact before them that there was a regularly formed Grand Lodge in the territory in which the lodges alluded to are situated, and this, too, with a square declaration, in their own statutes, of the American principle of Grand Lodge jurisdiction.

Precisely ; and will Bro. Woodhull have the kindness to enlighten our ignorance and inform us of the incompatibility of the two propositions?

The principles of masonic jurisprudence requires simply that due notice shall be given of the formation of the Grand Lodge. When the notice stated, as it did state, that a Grand Lodge was formed for the Territory of Dakota, that moment Minnesota lost all control of the lodges named, and it was the duty of the lodges to immediately, upon official information of the facts, surrender their charters and receive new ones from the new Grand Lodge.

Will Bro. Woodhull take the trouble to inform us where those said " principles of masonic jurisprudence " are to be found? We have somewhat of a library, copies of about all that has been printed on the subject of masonry ; and have occasionally spent a leisure hour in reading, and must confess that we have no recollection of such *authoritative* " principles."

Individuals give expression to ideas and opinions, based upon their surroundings, but we have yet to learn that giving expression to opinion makes such opinion *law*.

The wishes of a lodge situated in territory where a new Grand Lodge is formed, have nothing whatever to do with the matter at issue. * * * Is certainly a strange and incomprehensible position to be taken by this enlightened committee.

Has the *wishes* of an individual desiring initiation " nothing whatever to do with the matter?" Has the *wishes* of a Bro. desiring to affiliate " nothing whatever to do with the matter?" Has the *wishes* of brethren desiring to organize a new lodge " nothing whatever to do with the matter?" Is a chartered lodge a shuttle-cock, to be whipped around at pleasure? Is it not granted in perpetuity certain rights and privileges of which it cannot be deprived, unless it be for violation of its own laws or those of the Grand Lodge?

" A strange and incomprehensible position," and yet the Grand Lodge of Canada has acted upon the position for a quarter of a century past.

The Grand Lodges of Arkansas and Kansas acted upon the principle with reference to the Indian Territory, Virginia acted upon the same principle with reference to West Virginia, the General Grand Chapter of the United States acted on the same principle in the case of the District of Columbia.

In the re-organization of the Grand Lodge of Michigan this "strange and incomprehensible position" formed a part.

"They will have to take it all back sometime."

Wait and see, Bro. Woodhull. Masons, lodges and Grand Lodges have certain inalienable rights, of which no power on earth can take from them. Coercion is not a masonic term. So long as Minnesota believes she is right, she will not be driven from her position by the *ipse dixit* of any one.

After Bro. Woodhull has given us light on the foregoing proposition, will he kindly answer the questions proposed, to be found under the head of Maine—*anti*.

After he has done so, and deduced therefrom the legitimate result, we opine that the take back business will be shifted to other quarters.

In the foregoing pages all that has been written was done so with reference to general principles, and not as to applicability to a particular case. Pecuniarily, Minnesota has not one cent's interest in the matter.

Bro. Howry, of Mississippi, does not like the word "Mutuals," as applied to the reportorial corps. Bro. Woodhull "rises to explain:"

Bless you, Bro. Howry, we are sorry if that is so, we understand you are and persist in our opinion until you flatly contradict us once more. Your statement that "you speak your sentiments" is the best evidence in the world that you have been initiated, passed and raised to the degree of a mutual. We talk about mutuals, and still we have read "Anderson's Constitutions, the landmarks, and some of the laws of masonry," and still we persistently say Bro. Howry is a "mutual," but he must accept our definition, and not that of some who use the word to deride those who labor in season and out of season to accomplish some good by which the order may be benefited. The only definition we know is mutual friends, brothers, who reciprocate (not sycophantic praise,) but the good opinions and practices of their brethren; men who are mutually laboring for the good of our beloved fraternity, and who appreciate the labors of each other,

those who know the sacrifices necessarily made to accomplish the work, and who can appreciate the labors of their co-workers. These are mutuals. By no means would we, or can we, fraternize with those who cry good Lord one moment and good Devil the next. This is not the "stuff" of which we are made. We cannot agree with our distinguished brother that "mutual" means anything else, and therefore we reiterate the appellation and apply it directly to him, because we must believe him to be a reporter such as we describe. Above all men, reporters should be independent in their views.

M.·. W.·. Charles F. G. Collins, Beloit, Grand Master.

R.·. W.·. John W. Woodhull, Milwaukee, Grand Secretary, and is also Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee—were each re-elected.

WASHINGTON TERRITORY, 1879.

The Twenty-Second Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Washington Territory was held at Olympia, June 4th and 5th, 1879.

M.·. W.·. James R. Hayden, P.·. G.·. M.·., presiding, called to the East by the Senior Grand Warden.

The Grand Master was prevented from attending because of official duties—Governor of the Territory—and the Deputy also, being absent.

Twenty-two lodges represented.

Twenty-eight on the roll.

Two dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

The receipts for the year amounted to \$2531.75.

The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved by the Grand Lodge of Washington, That any lodge within this jurisdiction may, at a stated communication, elect any Master Mason, who has been a member in good standing for a term not less than twenty years, an honorary member of such lodge.

Resolved, That all honorary members shall be relieved from the payment of lodge dues, and the subordinate lodges from the payment of Grand Lodge dues for such members.

Resolved, furthermore, That no lodge in this jurisdiction shall be required to pay Grand Lodge dues upon indigent masons who are supported at the expense of the lodge.

Bro. T. M. Reed presented a well written report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing a review of the proceedings of forty-nine Grand Lodges—those of Minnesota included.

Under the head of Indiana, we find :

Thousands of men are passed through the degrees, and that is all they know, or care to know of masonry—only to be acknowledged as masons. They care little for the ritual, and still less for the moral and impressive teachings of the order. Totally ignore its literature; spurn the idea of patronizing a masonic paper or magazine—prefer some sensual novel—are tickled to see their names printed in the rolls of Grand Lodge, but don't know by what system of laws or regulations the fraternity are governed, for they never read the constitution and know nothing of its provisions. They are opposed to printing reports on Foreign Correspondence because they don't read them, therefore, in their estimation, it is a useless expense. We know of just such masonic characters. Men who have their thousands and who never gave a dime's patronage to a masonic publication, and perhaps less for a charitable purpose. Masonry with them is used only as a means for selfish purposes. This may seem harsh, but 'tis *true*, and "pity 'tis 'tis true."

Under the head of Minnesota, he says—referring to the address of Grand Master Durant :

He refers to the difficulty existing between Dakota and Minnesota but makes no particular recommendation in the matter. We have given our views upon this subject under the head of Dakota, and will here only remark that much of the responsibility of this whole trouble may be attributed to P. G. M. Braden's unfortunate and impolitic ruling, advising the lodges at Fargo and Bismarck that it was "optional with them to sever their connection" with the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, or remain. Had Bro. Braden lived we have no doubt he would have corrected this error and been instrumental in settling the difficulty long before this.

What other ruling could he have made? It was in accordance with the usage of Grand Lodges in this country from the beginning, so far as our information extends. Will the brother cite us to a single instance of a contrary ruling? We accept the proposition in a former part of his report, where he says, "from the limited but impartial investigation we have been able to make" "corrected his error." To err is human, yet Bro. Braden in his official capacity committed no errors. Determined to be right,

he never made a decision, even upon unimportant matters, until after careful—not limited—investigation.

Recognizing this characteristic of our late Grand Master, the committee reported and the Grand Lodge unanimously adopted the resolution that induces our good brother to say—

We are astonished beyond measure that such a resolution as the above could, under the circumstances, find any favor before an American Grand Lodge. Where stands Scotland *vs.* Quebec now? We leave this for Bro. Pierson to answer.

Bro. Pierson has answered in these pages. If his answers are not in accord with the principles that underlie the foundation of *Ancient* Craft Masonry, when demonstrated he will cheerfully “climb down.”

M.·. W.·. Oliver P. Lacy, Walla Walla, was elected Grand Master.

R.·. W.·. Thomas M. Reed, Olympia, re-elected Grand Secretary.

WEST VIRGINIA, 1878.

The Fourteenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, of West Virginia, was held at Wheeling, November 12th and 13th, 1878.

M.·. W.·. George Baird, G.·. M.·., presiding.

Seventy-two lodges represented.

One hundred and seventeen on the roll, of which but seventy-six are working.

Five dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

Among the decisions reported, we note :

8. A lodge cannot confer a degree as far as the lecture, then close and give the lecture at a subsequent communication. A degree once commenced, must be finished before the lodge is closed.

The reports of the District Deputies are full, and give evidence that each has exercised a watchful care over the lodges assigned.

At this the Fourteenth Annual Communication, the only remaining lodge in West Virginia holding a charter from Virginia gave in its adhesion. Here for fourteen years, Virginia—according to the notions of some of the law-givers—has presumed to

violate the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of West Virginia! Has laid herself liable to dire penalties for not respecting the exclusive jurisdiction dogma!! Surely Bro. Drinkard was not aware of the fact; and yet the two Grand Lodges have pursued the even tenor of their way, interchanging visits by the respective Grand Officers, apparently unconscious that by their action they were sapping the very foundation of the masonic structure.

It appears to us that the word consistency is not appreciated to the extent it might be.

No report on Foreign Correspondence.

M.·. W.·. George Baird, Grand Master.

R.·. W.·. O. S. Long, Grand Secretary, were each re-elected.
Address—Wheeling.

WYOMING, 1878.

The Fourth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Wyoming was held at Rawlins, October 8th, 1878.

M.·. W.·. Orlando North, G.·. M.·., presiding.

All the lodges—five—in the jurisdiction represented.

Total amount of revenue, \$477.00.

Total expenditures, \$395.00.

Total number of Master Masons, 312.

During the year 24 were raised and 18 affiliated.

The following was adopted:

Resolved, That we recommend an appropriation of seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) toward the beginning of a masonic library for the Grand Lodge of Wyoming, for the present year, to be expended as follows: Forty dollars (\$40.00) for the purchase of masonic books; fifteen dollars (\$15.00) for the binding (in muslin) of pamphlets now on hand; and twenty dollars (\$20.00) for a book-case.

When will Minnesota follow the lead of even the youngest of the Grand Lodges?

Bro. William G. Tonn presents an excellent report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing a review of the proceedings of fifty Grand Lodges—those of Minnesota included.

Bro. Tonn quotes from our report of 1878, and says:

Now this being so, would it not have been inconsistent, nay, even

wrong, for one master to use the material rejected and declared unfit for use by another, both equally empowered, aiming for the same object, and working on the construction of the same temple?

We answer most emphatically, No. The rejection *without reasons assigned*, simply meant, I have no employment for you; I don't want any more help; and that was all there was to it, and the party had just as good a right to apply elsewhere as he had to apply in the first instance. It is preposterous to assume that because I, wanting employment, apply to a party who happens not to want assistance that I am forever debarred from applying again except to him.

Each lodge has the right to judge of the material presented. But suppose unfitness was assigned, another master may take a different view, and having room, employs; where does the first party get his right to object? Not from the old six articles, charges or regulations, nor is such a position deducible from the language of either.

Leave the applicant as good as you find him was the understanding and general practice among masons until within comparatively these few years past.

The Minnesota rule requires one year's residence within the jurisdiction of the lodge to which application is made, and no questions are asked as to previous rejections. We are opposed to all new departures, and in masonry have a pious regard for the boy who went to the mill on horseback carrying the grist in one end of the bag and a stone in the other to balance, because his father did so. The masonry of the fathers was a pretty good institution, we are content to follow in their footsteps.

There Bro. Tonn, you can't complain of only half a page this time. By the way, we don't see where that patting on the back comes in; we endorsed the action of his Grand Lodge because we believed that it was right, that is all.

M. W. James H. Hayford, Laramie City, elected Grand Master.

R. W. William G. Tonn, Evanston, re-elected Grand Secretary, and is also Chairman of the Foreign Correspondence Committee.

THE DOGMA OF EXCLUSIVE JURISDICTION.

The printer informs us that the "form" is not full, and as we do not propose to let him have any "phat," we have concluded to recapitulate some of the remarks scattered through the foregoing pages on the dogma of exclusive jurisdiction, because, from comparatively recent occurrences, the subject is exciting considerable attention.

The doctrine was an outgrowth of the declaration of the independence of the colonies from the mother country, and was first promulgated after the union of the two Grand Lodges in Massachusetts. Its enunciation was an innovation on the practices of the Grand Lodges then in existence, but it became popular and has been received as the law from that time since by the American Grand Lodges, and if our information is correct, has not been departed from but in one instance—the New York and Michigan imbroglio of forty years ago.

The European Grand Lodges have never recognized the doctrine, but, with one exception, have refrained from establishing lodges in the United States since the declaration of independence.

All the American Grand Lodges concur in the doctrine that each Grand Lodge has, of right, exclusive jurisdiction over the territory within certain defined boundary lines, and concurrent jurisdiction in territory where no Grand Lodge existed. The defined boundary is conceded to be the political division of States or territories.

It is understood by exclusive jurisdiction, that a Grand Lodge within its defined boundaries has the exclusive right to establish lodges and authorize the making of masons of residents. It follows that the establishment of a lodge within such territory by any other power, or the recognition of a lodge so established, or the making masons of its residents, is an infringement of its rights and a violation of its jurisdiction, and subjects a body so doing to, at least, unfavorable criticism.

A charter granted by a Grand Lodge to organize a new lodge is perpetual in duration; it cannot be taken away except for cause, nor yet can it be surrendered by its members, no difference as to the number, so long as seven of them desire to retain it; nor can

it change its allegiance without a *violation of the O. B.* of its members, except by *permission* of its parent Grand Lodge; that the latter has been done time and again and no questions asked, does not alter the position. Not a single constitution of a Grand Lodge in the universe contains a provision relative to the formation of a Grand Lodge, nor yet has a charter ever been granted containing a provision for a change of allegiance. Custom or usage is another question, but there has not been uniformity in either. Because "custom" recognizes the condoning of offenses does not make it either lawful or equitable.

Each Grand Lodge has concurrent jurisdiction in any State, territory, province, kingdom or country in which there is no Grand Lodge; that is to say, that in any country, &c., where there is no Grand Lodge, any Grand Lodge has the right to establish lodges, and there is no difference in the privileges and amenities between it and one located at its Grand East. The lodge in China, established by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, occupies the same relative position to it as one located in Boston.

There is no law, there is no power, that can enact a law prescribing the manner or mode of erecting a Grand Lodge; there is not any standard for regularity. Lodges usually do not even wait for permission of their parent Grand Lodge, yet Grand Lodges are being organized.

The new Grand Lodge makes application to be admitted to the sisterhood of Grand Lodges; a committee reports: "in our opinion the proceedings were regular, and we recommend recognition."

"Recognition" of what? Regularity of proceedings? With no standard to govern by which to pronounce on the regularity or irregularity of the organization?

Recognition as a sovereign body? Yes, as regards its constituent bodies. Recognition as having, or entitled to exclusive jurisdiction in the territory? Now, that depends upon circumstances. A Grand Lodge may say, you have organized a Grand Lodge, we withdraw all claim that we have on the territory and surrender it to you. And that is the extent that recognition can go, unless indeed, advised that all other parties in interest have surrendered their rights.

This brings up the question, When does exclusive jurisdiction

obtain? In our judgment, only when all the parties in interest formally surrender their rights, or when *all* the lodges in a given territory unite and form a Grand Body. A Grand Lodge may be formed in a given territory with a less number than the whole, and possess all the powers and privileges of a Grand Lodge, except that of exclusive jurisdiction, because the body can have no more territory than that brought to it by its constituents, except indeed concurrent in unoccupied territory.

Masonry in all its phases is peculiarly a voluntary association; no such thing is known as a condemnation of property to obtain right of way. The term exclusive jurisdiction, like that of Ancient Landmark, is often used without appreciation of the applicability of the term to the question at issue, but as a means of silencing opposition to favorite theories.

A lodge owes perpetual allegiance to the Grand Lodge by which it was organized, and the Grand Lodge is equally bound to surround it with its protecting care so long as the terms of the charter are complied with, and no power on earth has the right to interfere with these mutual relations.

Two or more Grand Lodges exercise their concurrent rights in unoccupied territory by the establishment of lodges, and there is no limit as to the number that may be thus organized; the jurisdiction of a lodge extends half way on all sides to the next nearest lodge; each lodge then has certain defined territory in lawful possession. Some of these lodges unite and organize a Grand Lodge, masonic sentiment coincides with the action, and in conformity with popular sentiment, the door is closed to the establishment of other lodges by those that had concurrent jurisdiction. While such action of the lodges, unless permission is first obtained, is, in reality, a violation of chartered rights, &c., yet it has been of such duration without deprecation that it has come to be regarded as a matter of right. We certainly do not object.

One, two, or a dozen—numbers are immaterial—lodges in the territory decline to enter into the compact, what then? The new Grand Lodge has not exclusive jurisdiction in the territory, and the term recognition cannot give such jurisdiction if extended by every Grand Lodge in the universe. Anathemas, vituperation, or denunciation, do not reach the case. The lodges are there,

established by competent authority, with perpetual continuance, in possession of lawfully acquired territorial jurisdiction. How are they to be deprived of their position? Not by lawful measures. There are no laws applicable, and there are no powers that can make such laws.

We deduce that any number of lodges within certain defined limits, being the political lines bounding States, territories, &c., may unite—such has been the custom, and acknowledged—and organize a Grand Lodge.

That the Grand Lodge thus organized has all the rights, powers and privileges of pre-existing Grand Lodges, and if *all* of the lodges in the territory unite in the organization, then it has exclusive jurisdiction in such territory; but if one or more lodges decline to enter into the compact, then the new organization has jurisdiction only over the territory possessed by its constituent lodges.

That the organization of a Grand Lodge is an estoppel upon all other Grand Lodges exercising their concurrent rights in establishing lodges in the territory.

That the masonic institution is a voluntary association, equally applicable to lodges as individuals, and that no lodge can be compelled to change its allegiance or to surrender its charter.

That a Grand Lodge is bound to extend equal protection to its subordinates, no matter where situated.

If we are wrong in our propositions or deductions, we will cheerfully acknowledge error when convinced. We are free to confess that such expressions as “amazed at the position,” “we are surprised at such position,” “a position that strikes at the very foundation of the American system,” &c., &c., when unaccompanied by argument, will not be very apt to be received as convincing. “Custom” may be well enough if it can be shown to have been uniform. In cases where *all* the lodges in a given territory have united, custom has recognized that the Grand Lodge thus formed was entitled to, and had, exclusive jurisdiction, *but in no other case has custom settled the question.*

Fraternally submitted,

A. T. C. PIERSON,
Chairman.

APPENDIX B.

DIRECTORY OF GRAND LODGES.

COMPILED FROM THE LATEST DATA.

GRAND LODGE OF	GRAND MASTERS.		GRAND SECRETARIES.	
	NAME.	RESIDENCE.	NAME.	RESIDENCE.
Alabama.....	H. C. Armstrong ..	Notasulga	Daniel Sayre.....	Montgomery.
Arkansas.....	Geo. Thornburg ..	Powhattan.....	Luke E. Barber....	Little Rock.
British Columbia.	Ell Harrison.....	Victoria.....	E. C. Baker.....	Victoria.
Connecticut.....	I. M. Bullock.....	Bridgeport.....	J. K. Wheeler.....	Hartford.
California.....	J. M. Browne.....	Vallejo	A. G. Abell.....	San Francisco.
Colorado.....	Byron L. Carr.....	Longmont.....	Ed. C. Parmelee ..	Georgetown.
Canada.....	W. H. Weller.....	Cobourg.....	J. J. Mason.....	Hamilton.
Delaware.....	John Taylor.....	Wilmington.....	W. S. Hayes.....	Wilmington.
Dist. of Columbia.	H. A. Whitney.....	Washington.....	W. R. Singleton....	Washington.
Florida.....	W. A. McLean.....	Jacksonville....	D. C. Dawkins.....	Jacksonville.
Georgia.....	J. M. Mobley.....	Hamilton.....	J. E. Blackshear....	Macon.
Indiana.....	B. S. Sutton.....	Shelbyville.....	W. H. Smythe.....	Indianapolis.
Illinois.....	T. T. Gurney.....	Chicago.....	J. F. Burrill.....	Springfield.
Iowa.....	A. C. Abbott.....	Marshalltown....	T. S. Parvin.....	Iowa City.
Idaho.....	Chas. Himrod.....	Boise City.....	L. F. Cartee.....	Boise City.
Indian Territory.	J. S. Murrow.....	A-tok-a.....	W. F. McBride.....	A-tok-a.
Kentucky.....	T. S. Pettitt.....	Owensboro.....	H. Bassett.....	Millersburg.
Kansas.....	Jos. D. McCleverty	Fort Scott.....	J. H. Brown.....	Wyandotte.
Louisiana.....	E. Marks.....	New Orleans....	J. C. Batchelder....	New Orleans.
Maine.....	C. I. Collamore....	Bangor.....	Ira Berry.....	Portland.
Massachusetts....	C. A. Welch.....	Boston.....	T. P. Cheaver.....	Boston.
Maryland.....	J. H. Carter.....	Baltimore.....	J. H. Medairy.....	Baltimore.
Michigan.....	Daniel Striker....	Hastings.....	W. P. Innes.....	Grand Rapids.
Missouri.....	J. S. Browne.....	St. Joseph.....	J. D. Vincil.....	St. Louis.
Mississippi.....	Frank Burkitt.....	Okolona.....	J. L. Power.....	Jackson.
Montana.....	Hiram Kuowies....	Deer Lodge.....	Cornelius Hedges..	Helena.
Manitoba.....	S. P. Matheson....	Winnipeg.....	J. H. Bell.....	Winnipeg.
New Hampshire.	S. A. Carter.....	Keene.....	G. P. Cleaves.....	Concord.
New Jersey.....	H. Wallis.....	Jersey City....	J. H. Hough.....	Trenton.
New York.....	Chas. Roome.....	New York.....	J. M. Austin.....	New York.
North Carolina..	W. R. Cox.....	Raleigh.....	D. W. Bain.....	Raleigh.
Nebraska.....	R. H. Oakley.....	Lincoln.....	W. R. Bowen.....	Omaha.
Nevada.....	D. C. McKenny....	Austin.....	J. D. Hammond....	Carson.
Nova Scotia.....	J. W. Laurie.....	Halifax.....	B. Curren.....	Halifax.
New Brunswick..	R. Marshall.....	St. John.....	W. F. Bunting.....	St. John.
New Mexico.....	W. W. Griffin.....	Santa Fe.....	D. J. Miller.....	Santa Fe.
Ohio.....	W. M. Cunningham	Newark.....	J. D. Caldwell.....	Cincinnati.
Oregon.....	R. P. Earhart.....	Portland.....	J. W. Pratt.....	Portland.
Pennsylvania....	M. Nisbet.....	Philadelphia....	John Thomson.....	Philadelphia.
Prince Ed. Island	John Yeo.....	Port Hill.....	G. W. Wakeford....	Charlottetown.
Quebec.....	J. H. Grahman....	Richmond.....	J. H. Isaacson.....	Montreal.
Rhode Island....	E. L. Freeman.....	Central Falls..	E. Baker.....	Providence.
South Carolina..	A. T. Smythe.....	Charleston....	Chas. Inglesby....	Charleston.
Tennessee.....	G. O. Connor.....	Chattanooga....	John Frizzell.....	Nashville.
Texas.....	J. B. Jones.....	Austin.....	G. H. Bringhurst..	Houston.
Utah.....	Frank Tilford.....	Salt Lake City..	Christopher Diehl..	Salt Lake City.
Vermont.....	Lavant M. Read....	Bellows Falls..	Henry Clark.....	Rutland.
Virginia.....	B. R. Wellford....	Richmond.....	W. B. Isaacs.....	Richmond.
Wisconsin.....	C. F. G. Collins....	Beloit.....	I. W. Woodhull....	Milwaukee.
Washington Ter.	O. P. Lacy.....	Walla Walla....	T. M. Reed.....	Olympia.
West Virginia....	John W. Arbuckle..	Lewisburg.....	O. S. Long.....	Wheeling.
Wyoming.....	James H. Hayford.	Laramie City....	William G. Tonn....	Evanston.

APPENDIX C.—DIRECTORY OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

No.	NAME.	LOCATION.	W. MASTER.	SENIOR WARDEN.	JUNIOR WARDEN.	SECRETARY.
1.	St. Johns.	Stillwater.	W. F. Gorrie.	A. K. Dee.	W. F. Gorrie.	W. H. Richardson.
2.	Cataract.	Minneapolis East.	I. S. Lane.	W. E. Johnson.	O. A. Gardener.	Solon Armstrong.
3.	St. Paul.	St. Paul.	Wm. H. Grant.	H. Brand.	F. M. Shook.	C. A. Seely.
4.	Hennepin.	Minneapolis West.	W. A. Miller.	Cyrus Rothchild.	C. D. Hammond.	Wm. Gunderson.
5.	Ancient Landmark.	St. Paul.	W. D. Cornish.	A. P. Swenson.	W. E. Burton.	A. J. Buntingham.
6.	Dakota.	Hastings.	Irving Todd.	A. J. W. Thompson.	Geo. B. Dickey.	C. O. Ball.
7.	Red Wing.	Red Wing.	Lucius A. Hancock.	Swante I. Willard.	Wm. H. Putnam.	George P. Sjoblom.
8.	Farbault.	Farbault.	Geo. M. Andrews.	Ismael Haney.	John B. Gwathney.	Wm. Strauf.
9.	Marburyville.	Marburyville.	Ambrise La Due.	Ismael Haney.	Leonard Sherman.	John A. Lewis.
10.	Mankato.	Mankato.	Thomas Bennett.	Chas. H. Parsons.	Ferry Wyson.	A. D. Seward.
11.	Wapasha.	Wapasha.	I. A. Peck.	I. M. Martin.	H. S. Elkins.	F. H. Burdick.
12.	Monticello.	Monticello.	Henry Kreis.	Frank McDonald.	E. S. Gibbs.	H. S. Goff.
13.	Hokah.	Hokah.	W. Lossing.	W. H. Kelson.	Geo. Smith.	H. H. Covert.
14.	Winona.	Winona.	W. H. Benedict.	Chas. H. Goodwin.	Thos. A. Richardson.	J. K. Ferguson.
15.	Minneapolis.	Minneapolis West.	John H. Noble.	Thodore M. Slosson.	James M. Williams.	Frank A. Chamberlain.
16.	Caledonia.	Caledonia.	Charles A. Cox.	Eugene W. Trask.	Otis E. Comstock.	John Aiken.
17.	Rochester.	Rochester.	R. H. Gove.	R. L. Van Dusen.	M. Y. Barrroughs.	H. T. Hannou.
18.	Pleasant Grove.	Pleasant Grove.	O. H. Page.	Geo. Legan.	Geo. F. Allen.	R. D. Hatheway.
19.	North Star.	St. Cloud.	H. C. Woodbury.	A. A. Canfield.	Geo. S. Spencer.	S. H. Parsons.
20.	Wilton.	Wilton.	James F. Reppy.	Thos. E. Schlender.	Charles W. Minges.	John S. Abell.
21.	Western Star.	Albert Lea.	Tobias L. Rice.	Jackson Buttrick.	Wm. C. Pratt.	S. S. Edwards.
22.	Blue Earth Valley.	Winchago City.	Geo. P. Fish.	Joseph Whittemore.	Edward A. Hotchkiss.	Nathan W. Sargent.
23.	Clearwater.	Clearwater.	James C. Day.	C. E. Jackson.	Robert Campbell.	Thomas Tollington.
24.	Morning Star.	La Crescent.	James C. Day.	Geo. E. Cotton.	Wm. R. Anderson.	H. D. Gurley.
25.	Anoka.	Anoka.	A. A. Hilton.	Rufus P. Wells.	J. P. Hunter.	H. O. Hilton.
26.	King Hiram.	Jordan.	Ezra W. Snyder.	Geo. E. Cotton.	George B. Reed.	Fred. Scott.
27.	Sakatah.	Waterville.	E. W. Wicklin.	E. P. Case.	D. E. Potter.	R. C. Philbrick.
28.	Star in the East.	Owatonna.	L. L. Wheelock.	H. H. Rosebrock.	Henry Brickett.	H. H. Luers.
29.	Oriental.	Hastings.	Josh. E. Chapman.	Edward McKenzie.	Norman Coplen.	John A. Wilson.
30.	Preston.	Preston.	W. F. Finch.	Wm. H. DeKay.	Fred. Seal.	Charles King.
31.	Mount Moriah.	St. Cloud.	Wallace W. Braden.	Ole H. Jacobson.	Geo. W. Hard.	Lawrence M. Conkey.
32.	Mystic Tie.	Pine Island.	L. G. Thompson.	Dennis B. York.	Geo. W. Benjamin.	I. L. Bowman.
33.	Washington.	Washington.	Merrin G. Peters.	C. L. West.	Charles Whitton.	M. M. Severns.
34.	Fidelity.	Austin.	W. T. Wilkins.	H. Roof.	C. A. Hubbard.	Joseph Adams.
35.	Carnelian.	Lake City.	John Wear.	Chas. B. Anderson.	Ishauer Bingham.	James H. Farwell.
36.	Harmon.	Zumbrota.	J. D. Warren.	James Cummings.	M. Thoeny.	James H. Wells.
37.	Hope.	Glencoe.	D. Tupper.	Henry Nusslock.	Peter Fischer.	F. A. Graves.
38.	Harmony.	Lewiston.	I. C. Slade.	Geo. W. Gardner.	Joseph Newton.	O. W. Hunt.
39.	King Solomon.	Shakopee.	Horace D. Carter.	Roswell Tousey.	L. Quickenbush.	Jarvis W. Sencerbox.
40.	Union.	Lesueur.	E. P. Rutan.		Geo. W. Taylor.	Geo. W. Taylor.

46....	Evergreen.....	Saratoga.....	H. H. Straw.....	S. L. Draper.....	Wm. E. Walker.....	Wm. B. Hessegrave.....
47....	Concord.....	Cleveland.....	Wm. H. Hall.....	Frank S. Ransom.....	Henry Zimmerman.....	John W. Chambers.....
48....	Social.....	Northfield.....	F. A. Noble.....	E. M. Hitchcock.....	John Handy.....	George E. Bates.....
49....	Rising Sun.....	St. Charles.....	George H. Johnson.....	Robert Mears.....	Mason H. Gates.....	Everett C. Johnson.....
50....	Watertown.....	Watertown.....	Chas. G. Haigren.....	Frank S. Coffin.....	Chas. L. Flannigan.....	Walter St. John.....
51....	Acacia.....	Cottage Grove.....	Arthur H. Stein.....	Henry Schultz.....	Wallace Kelsey.....	Peter Thompson.....
52....	Cannon River.....	Morristown.....	George Molin.....	John M. Rohrer.....	Winfield Snyder.....	Judson Temple.....
53....	Nicolet.....	St. Peter.....	E. S. Pettijohn.....	C. M. Benham.....	Daniel Whips.....	C. F. Johnson.....
54....	Zion.....	Taylor's Falls.....	Geo. W. Seymour.....	L. W. Folsom.....	A. J. Murdoch.....	Wm. H. Dedon.....
55....	Meridian.....	Chaffield.....	George Andrus.....	S. S. McKinney.....	Joseph Underleak.....	Wm. H. Silsbee.....
56....	Blue Earth City.....	Blue Earth City.....	John D. Maxwell.....	Harrison Pratt.....	Peter B. Day.....	Jacob A. Kieboer.....
57....	Spring Valley.....	Spring Valley.....	N. R. Booth.....	E. D. Duclap.....	T. A. Wilkins.....	O. F. Adams.....
58....	Temple.....	Hutchinson.....	Chas. H. Stinchfield.....	J. T. Higgins.....	J. N. Ives.....	D. A. Adams.....
59....	Star in the West.....	Sauk Centre.....	C. S. Andrews.....	Lucas Kells.....	Adelbert A. Whitney.....	Robert J. Nille.....
60....	Ashlar.....	Eyota.....	C. S. Andrews.....	E. W. Weston.....	S. E. Keeler.....	O. F. Plank.....
61....	Star.....	Rockford.....	Jacob R. Ames.....	Daniel N. McCarter.....	Isaac P. Harvey.....	Gustave A. Ruckoldt.....
62....	Illustrious.....	Fairmount.....	Augustus Smith.....	John F. Pope.....	Samuel Purvis.....	Wm. Lawton.....
63....	Chain Lake.....	Chain Lake.....	John F. Daniels.....	Edward W. Bird.....	James N. Dickinson.....	Reuben M. Ward.....
64....	Golden Rule.....	Lakeland.....	John C. Higgins.....	David Hamner.....	Chas. H. Pratt.....	Reuben H. Sanderson.....
65....	Madelia.....	Madelia.....	J. P. Furber.....	J. A. Clark.....	W. K. Holmer.....	W. R. Marvin.....
66....	Corinthian.....	Rushford.....	J. M. D. Craft.....	D. F. Aikin.....	H. C. Wing.....	E. Z. Needham.....
67....	Mystic Star.....	Paynesville.....	Elias W. Lyon.....	John McLeod.....	Chas. Drake.....	Bose N. Ohlhouse.....
68....	Paynesville.....	Paynesville.....	Edward H. Bates.....	Rome I. Tuttle.....	James C. Haines.....	John W. Derby.....
69....	Lansing.....	Lansing.....	J. W. George.....	H. M. McIntyre.....	John Thompson.....	P. D. Vaughn.....
70....	Brownsville.....	Brownsville.....	J. B. LeBlond.....	J. P. Schaller.....	Christopher Clark.....	J. M. Riley.....
71....	Minneapolis.....	Minneapolis.....	[No Returns.].....			
72....	LeRoy.....	LeRoy.....	J. D. Allen.....	W. D. Harden.....	W. W. Sweet.....	M. E. Frisbee.....
73....	Eureka.....	Garden City.....	L. Cook.....	L. S. Terry.....	F. C. Nickerson.....	L. W. Close.....
74....	Tuscan.....	Wascana.....	C. A. Wright.....	R. L. McCormick.....	Henry Strong.....	I. R. Buckman.....
75....	Mystic Circle.....	Duluth.....	[No Returns.].....			
76....	Palatine.....	Henderson.....	Melvin J. Forbes.....	John R. Carcy.....	Luther Mendenhall.....	Wm. L. McLeilan.....
77....	Henderson.....	Alexandria.....	J. P. Kirby.....	E. Bolink.....	Wm. Dreischko.....	A. Zimmerman.....
78....	Constellation.....	Howard Lake.....	Geo. W. Rebarbs.....	Chas. Schultz.....	Joseph Gilpin.....	Oscar J. Roberts.....
79....	Howard.....	Kasson.....	Chas. W. Rickerson.....	Wallace Goodsell.....	Wm. L. McCollum.....	Thomas R. Briggs.....
80....	Orion.....	Money Creek.....	Hiram Hatch.....	Robert R. Goudy.....	Peter J. Schweg.....	Augustus E. Anderson.....
81....	High Forest.....	Money Creek.....	Masses Emery.....	Gilbert M. Corey.....	Taylor Robinson.....	Isaac H. Goodwin.....
82....	Tyrian.....	High Forest.....	Cyrus Converse.....	E. D. Buck.....	Eugene S. Woodbridge.....	Wm. L. Styles.....
83....	Doric.....	Wells.....	E. S. Hyde.....	L. B. Mathews.....	George Hall.....	J. W. Kingsley.....
84....	Golden Fleece.....	Litchfield.....	Daniel Straw.....	John P. Burke.....	Alfred L. Taylor.....	Muret N. Leland.....
85....	Good Faith.....	Redwood Falls.....	James H. Morris.....	Jerome B. Hatch.....	Henry Ames.....	Hamlet Stevens.....
86....	Antiquity.....	Pinecon.....	Alex. Fjeldes.....	C. B. Tuttle.....	J. W. Cowing.....	J. D. Converse.....
87....	Unity.....	Sauk Rapids.....	Thos. McMillan.....	John H. Bowers.....	Thos. H. King.....	J. M. Van Schaack.....
88....	Keystone.....	Shanty Eye Lake.....	Joseph L. Carter.....	Albert Jones.....	Wm. B. Gilles.....	Chas. H. Chadbourne.....
89....	Sherburne.....	Elk River.....	Wm. H. Fletcher.....	Sylvester Chrysler.....	Edwin S. Hall.....	Wayland Miller.....
90....			J. M. Thompson.....	Thos. Allison.....	C. W. Smith.....	
91....			Chas. S. Wheaton.....	Wm. T. Struble.....	Benjamin F. Mabie.....	Willard F. Chadbourne.....

APPENDIX C.—DIRECTORY OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.—CONTINUED.

No.	NAME.	LOCATION.	W. MASTER.	SENIOR WARDEN.	JUNIOR WARDEN.	SECRETARY.
96	Libanus	St. James	Blair Converse	J. S. Aldritt	W. A. Chapman	John W. Dreger
97	Prudence	Windom	C. H. Smith	R. R. Jenness	Orin Nasson	M. J. Klock
98	Charity	New Ulm	Albert Marden	Chas. Brust	Wm. Hummel	O. M. Olson
99	Corner Stone	Fergus Falls	James Crompton	Frank B. Johnson	John C. Sawbridge	Chas. J. Sawbridge
100	Aurora	Brainerd	James Dwyer	Slank Listoe	Eugene M. Westfall	Wm. Ferris
101	Fraternity	Worthington	A. C. Robinson	I. P. Durfee	B. N. Crier	R. D. Barber
102	Lebanon	Lanesboro	D. C. Hall	Wm. F. Wilson	Thos. Thorp	V. C. Ruessig
103	Bethel	Lake Crystal	A. I. Murphy	M. L. Helly	W. P. Marston	E. Franchester
104	Sharon	Willmar	F. R. Bunker	A. N. Lewis	A. B. Hanson	S. E. Thueston
105	Mt. Tabor	Detroit	F. A. Johnson	J. Andrews	F. C. Cheate	Chas. W. Dix
106	Adoniram	Dover Center	L. W. Nedham	Geo. Rank	G. G. Oppersmith	Richard Evans, Jr.
108	Relief	Dodge Center	J. E. Getman	A. S. Parker	H. H. Kitchell	M. R. Dusbach
109	Sunset	Montevideo	H. W. Heggy	W. B. Kitchell	G. I. Granger	W. B. Wilson
110	Pickwick	Pickwick	I. L. Finch	James Rathford	Cedolf Yungas	D. C. Martin
111	Carver	Carver	Henry R. Denny	James Johnson	Andrew P. Peterson	John S. Nelson
112	Kluram	Minneapolis West	E. J. Desport	John G. Woolsey	A. H. Keith	R. D. B. Nelson
113	Excelsior	Excelsior	Dana C. Hunt	C. Byerly	A. C. Stimp	Geo. Slater
114	Ben Franklin	Lyerue	James L. Helm	Robert O. Crawford	Wm. H. Halbert	Chas. W. Held
115	Elgin	Elgin	D. F. Ferguson	Harvey C. Richards	B. F. Norton	B. F. Gould
116	Lafayette	Bronsdale	J. B. Graves	A. McGowan	O. R. York	J. F. Tompkins
117	Granite	Granite Falls	Nelson H. Mosher	Am O. Russell	Milo E. Brand	H. J. Simpson
118	Newport	Newport	H. A. Durand	F. Cranshaw	Wm. Fowler	C. A. Durand
119	Delta	Delta	[No Returns.]			
120	Bismarck	Bismarck	Joseph Hare	Geo. C. Flannery	L. N. Griffin	E. M. Corey
121	Grand Meadow	Grand Meadow	Manson O. Wiste	Frank R. Warner	Alex. Requa	Simon S. Baker
122	Kellogg	Kellogg	James E. Gage	Melton K. Wolfe	Wm. Canfield	Chas. H. Coleman
123	Prairie	Bloomington	J. Palmer Johnson	Thomas S. Morton	Charles D. Giddings	Lewis Ellington
124	Lanesville	Bloomington	Luke Kellogg	John W. Hill	Fred. H. Sanborn	George F. Johnson
125	Windsor Lewis	Osseo	George W. Savage	A. D. Ferguson	O. A. Kelley	N. C. Black
126	Moorehead	Moorehead	W. E. Traux	F. J. Burnham	E. C. Bailey	Sam. Patridge
127	Centennial	Relquo	James H. Connell	John L. Kellogg	Minor Ball	Wm. J. Lewis
128	Josephus	Mapleton	Frank S. Swart	James E. Brown	Wm. H. Leighton	Wm. H. Davis
129	Swift	Benson	J. B. Clarke	D. S. Hall	H. W. Stone	H. A. Alm
130	Ardurus	Red Wing	O. Whitman	H. C. Hodgman	Geo. H. Benton	J. W. Swanstrom
131	Alma	Lyle	J. S. Bowers	J. S. Johnson	Oscar B. Dearborn	Th. Irgens
132	Marquette	Nowood	Julius H. Ackerman	Robert Elliott	Julius Schaller	Chas. Bachmann
133	Golden Sheaf	Norris	Henry Hutchins	Ed. A. Dopkins	Henry Baldwin	W. W. Griswold
134	Cokato	Cokato	E. H. Farnham	John Chapman	F. M. Jenks	H. F. Edwards
135	Walnut	Walnut Station	O. H. Rushnell	Geo. W. McInturf	John C. Nugent	S. R. Wells
136	Nelson	Buffalo	Luther L. Blair	Robert W. Hoyte	Ezra P. Byram	John H. Anderson

APPENDIX D.—GRAND OFFICERS.

ELECTIVE GRAND OFFICERS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MINNESOTA, FROM ITS ORGANIZATION IN 1853,
TO THE PRESENT TIME.

YEAR.	GRAND MASTER.	DEPUTY G. M.	SENIOR G. W.	JUNIOR G. W.	No. Lodge.	G. TREASURER.	No. Lodge.	G. SECRETARY.	No. Lodge.
1853	A. E. Ames†	A. Goodrich.....	D. F. Brawley.....	A. Van Vorhest.....	3	E. Casel.....	1	J. G. Lennon.....	2
1854	A. E. Ames†	D. F. Brawley.....	A. Van Vorhest.....	A. T. C. Pierson.....	3	E. Casel.....	5	H. Reynolds.....	4
1855	M. Sherburne†	A. T. C. Pierson.....	C. T. Stearns.....	A. Van Vorhest.....	3	E. Casel.....	5	H. Reynolds.....	4
1856	A. T. C. Pierson.....	H. N. Setzer.....	Thomas Lombard.....	E. A. Hodson†.....	6	E. Casel.....	4	H. Reynolds.....	4
1857	A. T. C. Pierson.....	Wm. H. Mowert.....	E. A. Hodson†.....	William Lee.....	4	E. Casel.....	7	Geo. W. Prescott.....	4
1858	A. T. C. Pierson.....	D. B. Loomis.....	Frank Mantor.....	A. C. Smith.....	11	E. Casel.....	3	Geo. W. Prescott.....	19
Oct. 1858	A. T. C. Pierson.....	D. B. Loomis.....	Samuel E. Adams.....	Samuel E. Adams.....	16	E. Casel.....	16	Geo. W. Prescott.....	19
1859	A. T. C. Pierson.....	D. B. Loomis.....	J. C. Whipple†.....	J. C. Whipple†.....	9	E. Casel.....	17	Geo. W. Prescott.....	19
*1863	A. T. C. Pierson.....	J. E. Thompson.....	J. E. Thompson.....	George Bradley†.....	1	E. Casel.....	31	Geo. W. Prescott.....	19
1864	A. T. C. Pierson.....	L. E. Thompson.....	C. H. Lindley.....	W. T. Rigby.....	21	E. Casel.....	28	Geo. W. Prescott.....	19
1865	Geo. W. Prescott.....	P. P. Hubbell.....	E. C. Wells†.....	A. B. Curry.....	31	George L. Otis.....	23	A. T. C. Pierson.....	19
1866	Geo. W. Prescott.....	W. T. Rigby.....	Robert Stewart.....	A. J. Phelps.....	11	George L. Otis.....	34	C. W. Carpenter.....	5
1867	Charles W. Nash.....	R. A. Jones.....	S. R. Merrill.....	S. R. Merrill.....	49	George L. Otis.....	40	Wm. S. Combs.....	5
1868	Charles W. Nash.....	G. B. Cooley.....	S. R. Merrill.....	S. Y. Hyde.....	40	George L. Otis.....	49	Wm. S. Combs.....	5
1870	Charles W. Nash.....	G. B. Cooley.....	S. Y. Hyde.....	S. Y. Hyde.....	49	George L. Otis.....	49	Wm. S. Combs.....	5
1871	Charles W. Nash.....	C. Griswold.....	E. D. B. Porter†.....	Fred. Ross.....	12	George L. Otis.....	33	Wm. S. Combs.....	5
1872	G. B. Cooley.....	C. Griswold.....	E. D. B. Porter†.....	J. W. Morford.....	60	George L. Otis.....	60	Wm. S. Combs.....	5
1873	C. Griswold.....	J. N. Castle.....	Edgar Nash.....	I. B. Barnum.....	79	George L. Otis.....	18	Wm. S. Combs.....	5
1874	C. Griswold.....	J. N. Castle.....	Edgar Nash.....	I. B. Cummings.....	79	George A. Camp.....	18	E. D. B. Porter†.....	12
1875	J. C. Braden†.....	C. Braden†.....	I. B. Cummings.....	H. R. Wells.....	18	George A. Camp.....	36	E. D. B. Porter†.....	12
1876	J. C. Braden†.....	E. W. Durant.....	H. R. Wells.....	A. J. Edgerton.....	36	George A. Camp.....	11	A. T. C. Pierson.....	2
1877	E. W. Durant.....	H. R. Wells.....	L. Z. Rogers.....	C. O. Ball.....	32	George A. Camp.....	7	A. T. C. Pierson.....	2
1878	E. W. Durant.....	C. H. Benton.....	C. H. Benton.....	C. N. Daniels.....	4	George A. Camp.....	2	A. T. C. Pierson.....	19
1879	Henry R. Wells.....	C. H. Benton.....	C. N. Daniels.....	George A. Camp.....	9	J. H. Thompson.....	3	A. T. C. Pierson.....	19
1880	Henry R. Wells.....	C. H. Benton.....	G. H. Davis.....	J. H. Brown.....	23	J. H. Thompson.....	104	A. T. C. Pierson.....	19

* No sessions of the Grand Lodge in 1862 or 1868.

† Deceased.

† Expelled.

ABSTRACT OF RETURNS.—CONTINUED.

Number of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE.	Reductions.					Additions.					Total Amount of Fees and Dues.	No. for next Report
		Withdrawn.	Suspended.	Stricken from Roll.	Expelled.	Died.	Restored.	Adjoined.	Initiated.	Passed.	Raised.		
75	Eureka.....	1	1	5		1		1	2	2	2	\$ 24 50	40
76	Joppa.....	1										16 50	33
77	Tuscan.....			6				4	3	3	3	32 50	56
78	Mystic Circle.....												
79	Palestine.....	2		2			1	1		1	1	33 50	66
80	Henderson.....								1			17 00	35
81	Constellation.....	1							2	2		24 00	49
82	Howard.....	3		5				1	4	4	3	25 00	31
83	Huram Abi.....	1		6				1	1	1	1	27 50	53
84	Orient.....	3		1				1				10 50	24
85	High Forest.....			1					1	1		18 00	32
86	Tyrian.....	3						1	2	2	3	35 50	61
87	Doric.....	2					8	1				21 50	52
89	Golden Fleece.....	2			1	1		3	9	5	7	66 00	100
90	Good Faith.....				1			3				8 00	18
91	Antiquity.....	1		4				3	2	2	2	21 00	37
92	Fraternal.....	3		3				3	19	17	17	65 00	44
93	Unity.....	1							1	1	1	14 00	25
94	Keystone.....								1	1	1	27 00	49
95	Sherburne.....	2						1	1	2	2	26 50	46
96	Libanus.....	2		1					2	2	2	24 00	40
97	Prudence.....		1					3	1			12 00	25
98	Charity.....	1				1			2	2	2	23 00	37
99	Corner Stone.....	1							4	2	4	34 00	54
100	Aurora.....	2				1					1	22 50	44
101	Fraternity.....	1		4					2			20 50	39
102	Lebanon.....	3				1		1	2	2	1	19 50	31
103	Bethel.....											6 50	13
104	Sharon.....							2	3	2	2	26 00	42
105	Mt. Tabor.....	1						1	1	1	1	20 00	37
106	Adoniram.....								3	3	3	18 50	24
107	Relief.....	3		4		1	2		1			26 50	54
108	Sunset.....							4	10	5	4	31 00	33
109	Pickwick.....	1						1	3	2	2	17 50	25
110	Carver.....								5	4	5	28 00	35
111	Khurum.....							9	9	9	9	71 00	106
112	Excelsior.....	3		5						1	2	16 00	29
113	Ben Franklin.....	1						1	5	4	4	28 50	36
114	Elgin.....	4		5					1	1	1	24 00	43
115	LaFayette.....					1			3	5	6	23 50	27
116	Granite.....					1		3	4	6	5	26 00	30
117	Newport.....										1	7 50	14
118	Delta.....												
119	Bismarck.....								1	2	2	18 00	28
120	Grand Meadow.....			1				1				12 00	27
121	Kellogg.....								3	3	3	20 50	27
122	Prairie.....	1							3	4	1	16 50	18
123	Janesville.....	1		1					5	0	6	30 00	32
124	Winslow Lewis.....	2							3	3	3	26 50	38
125	Moorhead.....	2		1				4		1	2	11 00	22
126	Centennial.....	1		2				1	3	3	3	14 00	16
127	Josephus.....	1							1	1	1	14 00	22
128	Swift.....	2						4	5	5	3	20 00	23
129	Arcturus.....	1						2	3	1	1	21 00	35
130	Alma.....	2							10	9	7	39 50	34
131	Humboldt.....								1	3	3	15 50	20
132	Golden Sheaf.....							3	5	5	5	28 50	35
133	Cokato.....	3				1			3	2	2	13 50	15
134	Nelson.....								1	1	1	12 00	19
135	Walnut.....								3	2	1	11 50	13
136	Appleton U. D.....								5	5	5	15 00	
	Crookston U. D.....								3	3	4	10 00	
	Verndale U. D.....								12	7	6	25 00	
	Little Falls U. D.....								7	5	5	17 00	
	Orion U. D.....								9	7	7	23 00	
		218	13	224	4	49	27	170	354	345	333		8647

APPENDIX F.

SUMMARY OF LODGES BY COUNTIES.

COUNTIES.	LODGES.	No. of Lodge	LOCATION.
Anoka.....	Anoka.....	30	Anoka.
Becker.....	Mt. Tabor.....	106	Detroit.
Benton.....	Unity.....	93	Sauk Rapids.
Big Stone.....	Ortonville.....	U. D.	Ortonville.
	{ Mankato.....	12	Mankato.
Blue Earth.....	{ Joppa.....	76	Garden City.
	{ Bethel.....	103	Lake Crystal.
	{ Josephus.....	128	Mapleton.
Brown.....	{ Keystone.....	94	Sleepy Eye.
	{ Charity.....	98	New Ulm.
	{ Watertown.....	50	Watertown.
Carver.....	{ Carver.....	111	Carver.
	{ Humboldt.....	132	Norwood.
Chippewa.....	Sunset.....	109	Montevideo.
Chisago.....	Zion.....	55	Taylor's Falls.
Clay.....	Moorhead.....	126	Moorhead.
Cottonwood.....	Prudence.....	97	Windom.
Crow Wing.....	Aurora.....	100	Brainerd.
	{ Dakota.....	7	Hastings.
Dakota.....	{ Mt. Moriah.....	35	Hastings.
	{ Corinthian.....	67	Farmington.
	{ Mantorville.....	11	Mantorville.
Dodge.....	{ Washington.....	38	Concord.
	{ Hiram Abi.....	83	Kasson.
	{ Relief.....	108	Dodge Center.
Douglas.....	Constellation.....	81	Alexandria.
Faribault.....	{ Blue Earth Valley.....	27	Winnebago City.
	{ Blue Earth City.....	57	Blue Earth City.
	{ Doric.....	87	Wells.
	{ Preston.....	36	Preston.
Fillmore.....	{ Meridian.....	50	Chatfield.
	{ Spring Valley.....	38	Spring Valley.
	{ Mystic Star.....	67	Rushford.
	{ Lebanon.....	102	Lanesboro.
Freeborn.....	Western Star.....	26	Albert Lea.
	{ Red Wing.....	8	Red Wing.
	{ Arcturus.....	130	Red Wing.
Goodhue.....	{ Oriental.....	34	Cannon Falls.
	{ Mystic Tie.....	37	Pine Island.
	{ Hermon.....	41	Zumbrota.
	{ Cataract.....	2	Minneapolis, E.
Hennepin.....	{ Hennepin.....	4	Minneapolis, W.
	{ Minneapolis.....	19	Minneapolis, W.
	{ Khurum.....	112	Minneapolis, W.
	{ Excelsior.....	113	Excelsior.
	{ Winslow Lewis.....	125	Osseo.

SUMMARY OF LODGES BY COUNTIES.—CONTINUED.

COUNTIES.	LODGES.	No. of Lodge	LOCATION.
	Hokah.....	17	Hokah.
	Caledonia.....	20	Caledonia.
Houston.....	Morning Star.....	29	LaCrescent.
	Brownsville.....	73	Brownsville.
	Orient.....	84	Money Creek.
Jackson.....	Good Faith.....	90	Jackson.
Kandiyohi.....	Sharon.....	104	Willmar.
	Orion.....	138	Atwater.
	Sakatah.....	32	Waterville.
Le Sueur.....	Union.....	45	Le Sueur.
	Concord.....	47	Cleveland.
Lyon.....	Delta.....	119	Marshall.
McLeod.....	Hope.....	42	Glencoe.
	Temple.....	59	Hutchinson.
Martin.....	Chain Lake.....	64	Fairmont.
Meeker.....	Golden Fleece.....	89	Litchfield.
Mille Lacs.....	Fraternal.....	92	Princeton.
Morrison.....	Little Falls.....	140	Little Falls.
Murray.....	Currie.....	U. D.	Currie.
	Fidelity.....	39	Austin.
	Lansing.....	72	Lansing.
	Eureka.....	75	Le Roy.
Mower.....	LaFayette.....	116	Brownsdale.
	Meadow.....	121	Grand Meadow.
	Alma.....	131	Lyle.
Nicollet.....	St. Peter.....	54	St. Peter.
Nobles.....	Fraternity.....	101	Worthington.
	Rochester.....	21	Rochester.
	Pleasant Grove.....	22	Pleasant Grove.
Olmstead.....	Ashlar.....	61	Eyota.
	High Forest.....	85	High Forest.
	Adoniram.....	107	Dover Center.
Otter Tail.....	Fergus Falls.....	99	Fergus Falls.
Polk.....	Crookston.....	141	Crookston.
	St. Paul.....	3	St. Paul.
Ramsey.....	Ancient Landmark.....	5	St. Paul.
	Antiquity.....	91	Red Wood Falls.
Red Wood.....	Walnut.....	135	Walnut Station.
Rock.....	Ben. Franklin.....	114	Lu Verne.
	Faribault.....	9	Faribault.
Rice.....	Social.....	48	Northfield.
	Cannon River.....	52	Morristown.
St. Louis.....	Palestine.....	79	Duluth.
	King Hiram.....	31	Jordan.
Scott.....	King Solomon.....	44	Shakopee.
Sherburne.....	Sherburne.....	95	Elk River.
Sibley.....	Henderson.....	80	Henderson.
	North Star.....	23	St. Cloud.
Stearns.....	Star in the West.....	60	Sauk Center.
	Paynesville.....	71	Paynesville.
	Star in the East.....	33	Owatonna.
Steele.....	Prairie.....	123	Blooming Prairie.
Stevens.....	Golden Sheaf.....	133	Morris.
	Swift.....	129	Benson.
Swift.....	Appleton.....	137	Appleton.

SUMMARY OF LODGES BY COUNTIES.—CONTINUED.

COUNTIES.	LODGES.	No. of Lodge	LOCATION.
Wabasha	Wapahasa.....	14	Wabasha.
	Carnelian.....	40	Lake City.
	Illustrious.....	63	Plainview.
	Minneiska	74	Minneiska.
	Tyrian.....	86	Mazeppa.
	Elgin.....	115	Elgin.
Waseca.....	Kellogg.....	122	Kellogg.
	Wilton.....	24	Wilton.
	Tuscan.....	77	Waseca.
	Janesville.....	124	Janesville.
Washington	St. Johns.....	1	Stillwater.
	Acacia.....	50	Cottage Grove.
	Golden Rule.....	65	Lakeland.
	Newport.....	118	Newport.
Wadena.....	Verndale.....	139	Verndale.
Watsonwan.....	Madelia.....	66	Madelia.
	Libanus.....	96	St. James.
Winona.....	Winona.....	18	Winona.
	Harmony.....	43	Lewiston.
	Evergreen.....	46	Saratoga.
	Rising Sun.....	49	St. Charles.
	Pickwick.....	110	Pickwick.
	Monticello....	16	Monticello.
Wright.....	Clear Water.....	28	Clear Water.
	Star.....	62	Rockford.
	Howard.....	81	Howard Lake.
	Centennial.....	127	Delano.
	Cokato.....	134	Cokato.
	Nelson.....	136	Buffalo.
Yellow Medicine..	Granite.....	117	Granite Falls.
Dakota Ter.....	Bismarck.....	120	Bismarck.

APPENDIX G.

ADDRESS OF R. W. GEO. H. DAVIS, GRAND ORATOR.

Most Worshipful Grand Master :

Under the appointment with which, one year ago, you were pleased to honor me, it becomes my duty to briefly call attention to some of those thoughts which should occupy the minds of the craft, and which are specially important when we have convened in Grand Communication to guard the masonic rights, and promote the interests of those whom we here represent.

I can bring to you, Brethren of the Grand Lodge, nothing which shall possess the charm of novelty; nor have I that happy gift with which some are blessed, of so clothing old and familiar truths with the beauties of rhetoric, that they shall even *seem* to flow, bright and newly coined, from the treasure-house of the soul.

We meet to-day as representatives of one of the old institutions of the world. We have to do with *old truths*—truths which have not been brought to light by modern labor, modern research, or modern speculation, but truths which have *ever* existed, and which have been the lights and guiding principles of our order since the time when, in the far off and unknown ages of the past, Freemasonry first began its work of love and peace. And it is the more important that we should dwell upon these truths, because, as was aptly expressed by a profound and learned writer of the present century, “Truths, of all others the most awful and interesting, are too often considered so true that they lose all the power of truth, and lie bed-ridden in the dormitory of the soul, side by side, with the most despised and exploded errors.”

The origin of Freemasonry is shrouded in obscurity and doubt, and we make no ambitious attempt to trace its history, or to discern its lineage in the clouded teachings and principles of ancient mysteries. We have nothing in its written or unwritten laws which reveals to us the small beginnings of the brotherhood which has assumed so great and universal proportions. Even our traditions, reaching back into the dim and far off ages of the world, fail to satisfy our curious and enquiring minds. Uncer-

tain, however, as is the origin of Freemasonry, we know it to be very ancient. It has grown venerable with the lapse of centuries, while its principles, holy and heaven-born, have added strength and vitality with each succeeding period of time. There have been other systems which seemed to be more permanent; there have been confederations and governments which seemed to be bound by indissoluble ties of power and of interest; but one after another they have been crowded out of the line as the great world moved on. Time and decay have wasted and destroyed much that *seemed* imperishable. Empires have been born, have lived, and have died. Dynasties have arisen, have reigned, and have been forgotten. Arts have been lost, and races have become extinct. The enlightenment and civilization of men have been buried beneath the ruins of those monuments where now the traveler sees written only the sad story of the frailty and folly of human hopes and aspirations.

“ The tower that long had stood
The crush of thunder and the warring winds,
Shook by the slow, but sure, destroyer Time,
Now hangs in doubtful ruins o’er its base;
And flinty pyramids, and walls of brass,
Descend! The Babylonian spires are sunk;
Achaia, Rome and Egypt moulder down!
Time shakes the stable tyranny of thrones,
And tottering empires crush by their own weight.”

And yet, Freemasonry, which has witnessed the rise and fall of empires and nations, the wreck of other human institutions, and the monuments of genius, *lives*; and lives, not in the weakness of old age, but in the growing vigor of healthful manhood. And we cannot but ask the question, *Why does she live?* To what is due this strange vitality, which invigorates and re-invigorates her veins as though she had drank from the fountain of immortal youth?

We can only answer such questions by entering the circle of her brotherhood, and learning the truths upon which she has builded.

She recognizes the existence and the power of an overruling Providence. She teaches her children that they are responsible beings, whose work is to be tried by an unerring square in the hands of a merciful and loving, but a just and all-seeing Master. At the very threshold of her temple her votaries are taught to invoke the blessing of Him who fills that temple with his presence. She enjoins them to subdue the passions and vices by temperance, fortitude and justice. She places God’s Book upon her altar, as the trestle-board of the Supreme Architect, where our work is all laid down for us, to be squared by virtue, and circumscribed by God’s will. She conducts us to that ladder of faith, and hope, and charity, and sets before us the measure of our practical duty, without which faith is dead,

and hope a delusion; without which the name of mason is an empty title, and masonry itself a painted bauble. In short, she teaches brotherly love, relief and truth; that men are brothers; that they should be ever ready to go out of their way to aid the needy; that they are to remember each other's welfare in their prayers to Deity; that they are to maintain their fraternal integrity; that they are to whisper good counsel in each other's ears; and that they are to stretch forth the hand of fellowship, not in anger and scorn and violence, but to raise the fallen.

It is because Freemasonry has been the symbolic custodian of such truths, that she has defied so long the assaults of men and time. It is because she enshrines and symbolizes the great vital truths of revelation, that God has preserved her for her great and good work. It is upon this rock that she has builded, and it is to God's truth, and not to her own universality and power that she owes her permanence.

It is well, my brethren, that we should dwell upon this foundation stone of our order. We live in times of social, political and religious restlessness, when men are prone to turn away from the old faith, and to follow after the strange deities of speculation and of so-called philosophy. And has it never occurred to you that modern skepticism would rob Freemasonry of her brightest jewels? would destroy the very foundation upon which she has builded? Take from her altar that book which is given to the mason as the rule and guide of his faith; erase from her ritual the lessons of reverence for, and dependence upon, the great "I am;" forget that he who presides in the East, as well as he who stands for the first time in the N. E. corner, is to bow with lowly humility before the Deity, and what have you left? An empty name, but not a living soul.

If you love this institution; if you would see it develope into yet grander proportions, if you would have it go onward and upward in its work of love, and charity, and mercy, then remember that the *first* of your great lights is *God's Word*.

We have recently read through the public prints, and some of you have doubtless listened to, fierce and violent attacks upon the institution which we here represent. We are not called upon to reply to, or argue with, those who through ignorance or prejudice may ridicule the order, and our only interest in such assaults should be that we may learn wisdom even from our adversaries. It does not follow, that because one dislikes and openly opposes secret societies, and masonry among the rest, that he is a bad man. Men good and true will always be found among our opponents. It is devoutly to be wished, however, that no one of us shall ever attain to that eminent degree of morality and spirituality which shall teach us that there is no sanctity to a pledge or oath, because it has not been attested before a notary public.

But while there are objections urged against masonry, not only by those whom we may justly style her enemies, but even by wise and good men, let it be remembered that our most formidable enemy is ignorance of the

true spirit of our order, not so much in those without our circle as among ourselves. Take away this obstacle of our own want of appreciation of the higher and better principles of masonry, and all others will soon vanish.

I am not here, my brethren, to eulogize masonry. I state but imperfectly, and as plainly as possible, what I have learned of her teachings; and I deplore beyond measure, that there are so many within our circle, who are so slightly imbued with a proper knowledge of the institution within whose portals they have gained admission. Said the philosopher Locke, before his initiation, "An universal language has been much desired by the learned of many ages. It is a thing to be *wished* for rather than *hoped* for. But it seems masons pretend to have such a thing among them. But we are told that this is not the case with all masons; for though these arts are among them, and all have a right and an opportunity to know them, yet some want industry, and others capacity, to acquire them."

There are too many among us, who rest satisfied with a superficial knowledge, and esteem themselves bright masons, if they have acquired a certain perfunctory proficiency in our ritual. He greatly mistakes the high and noble ends of masonry, who considers mere acquaintance with its ritual ceremonies, the written and unwritten statutes of the order, the sum of its teachings, and the entire qualifications of a true craftsman, "a workman that needeth not to be ashamed." These are but the scaffolding of the temple, the working tools with which the building is to be erected, the helps by which the master workman is to develop the most sublime social virtues.

Have you learned, my brethren, to subdue your passions, and to discipline your hearts, by the exercise of brotherly love, relief and truth? Are you spreading the cement which shall unite the dissevered family of man into a temple of living stones, in which no contention shall ever exist, but that noble contention, or rather emulation, of who best can work and best agree? Has prudence taught you to regulate your lives and actions agreeably to the dictates of reason; and temperance to exercise that due restraint upon your affections and passions, which renders the body tame and governable, and frees the mind from the allurements of vice?

Is justice your standard, and a noble self-denial for the good of others, and a scorn of all that will sully the purity, or detract from the dignity of manhood? If you have not thus learned, or are not thus learning, it is in vain that you have stood upon the tessellated pavement, and entered the middle chamber, and ascended the three steps which lead to the Sanctum Sanctorum.

We cannot pass over without a brief notice—a single one of the objections that have been so sedulously urged against masonry.

It is charged that Freemasonry usurps the prerogatives of religion, and seeks to supplant it. The accusation is a grave one, and could it in any

degree be sustained, I do not hesitate to say there are thousands who now deeply love the mystic brotherhood, who would at once withdraw from its fellowship and countenance.

But the charge has no foundation in fact. Masonry everywhere repudiates the idea. The notion arises in part from the fact that the Bible is used in our lodges, and prayers are there offered to God; but chiefly from a less commendable circumstance. Enthusiastic, yet ignorant, masons have sometimes declared that masonry is a divine institution, sufficient to satisfy the religious requirements of the soul, and to fit man for heaven. "Masonry is a good enough religion for us," they say.

Masonry cannot be held responsible for so gross a misconception of her claims. It is true that no man can be a true mason until he has learned to reverence that God whose name he is taught never to mention but with that reverential awe which is due from the creature to the Creator. He who has no belief in God has no fellowship with masonry. But she teaches no creed, she dictates no form of worship, and never attempts to theologize the attributes of the Deity, or to substitute the lodge for the church. She never claims to be a religion, or to satisfy the demands of the religious instincts which the Creator has implanted in the soul of man.

As respects the various concerns of life, she is broad and tolerant, imposing no restrictions, and exacting no obedience which can conflict with the duties a man owes to God, country, neighbor or self. She teaches loyalty to all these in exact proportion to the light which each one possesses. And thus it happens that men of different creeds and opinions, living under every conceivable form of government, and holding diverse views on all those subjects concerning which men have ever differed, and will ever continue to differ, are enabled to meet upon the same level in brotherly peace and harmony. And in this broad and generous charity we find another of those agencies which have contributed to perpetuate our institution.

There are those, too, who believe the principles of secret societies to be subversive of the interests and security of civil government; and more especially of such a government as our own.

"A tree is known by its fruits."

Masonry has enrolled on her list of brethren the wealthy, the powerful, and the learned—the *leaders* in every department of society, of the State and of the Church; as well as the humble—the rank and file. And yet, who can point to any instance where this power and influence have been combined to promote any cause of evil? Who can point to any case of disloyalty to God, or to government or to neighbor, which had its origin in the masonic lodge?

We do not say that masons have not been disloyal—that there have not

been bad men who have been masons. We *have* been called to bow our heads in shame at the unworthy deeds of unworthy brothers. But it was not masonry which taught them their lessons of crime or folly. It was not in the lodge that their mischievous imaginations were begotton. For here we are taught but one lesson—that we should be true men, loyal to God, to our families, to ourselves.

My brethren, the interests of the fraternity are in your hands. Be careful then “not to blend with it your weaknesses, nor stain it with your vices.” Consider how much the world expects of you, and how “unwilling to make you any abatement.” Consider with what dignity you ought to sustain the character you bear. In the words of an eloquent and discerning brother, let me say, “there was a time when few but the good and true either sought for, or gained admission into, masonic lodges; for it was thought that such alone could find their affinities there. Masons were then comparatively few, and were generally known and distinguished for those qualifications which the teachings of the order require on the part of all who apply for admission. They were not of those who would make merchandize of its benefits, by prostituting them to the purposes of individual emolument. They were not of those who would seek through masonic appliances to reinvigorate a decaying reputation, or gain a prominence within the lodge that was unattainable without it, or worse still, to use its influence to gain prominence elsewhere.”

If in any degree we have departed from the integrity of those good old days, we have need to turn our faces back again, and each one to remember that upon him rests the honor and reputation of the order, and its capacity for good in the improvement of his fellow-men; and let each one so live as to render the name of Freemason respectable, honorable and glorious, as designating worth and virtue of a superior stamp.

APPENDIX H.

DISTRICT DEPUTIES.

The Grand Lodge Jurisdiction of the State of Minnesota is hereby divided into Districts, and Deputies therefor are appointed as hereinafter stated, respectively.

FIRST DISTRICT.

R. W. O. G. MILLER, (5,) ST. PAUL.

St. Johns, No.....	1	Acacia, No.....	51
St. Paul, No.....	3	Zion, No.....	55
Ancient Landmark, No.....	5	Golden Rule, No.....	65
Dakota, No.....	7	Palestine, No.....	79
Mt. Moriah, No.....	35	Newport, No.....	118

SECOND DISTRICT.

R. W. E. J. DAVENPORT, (112,) MINNEAPOLIS.

Cataract, No.....	2	Khurum, No.....	112
Hennepin, No.....	4	Excelsior, No.....	113
Minneapolis, No.....	19	Winslow Lewis, No.....	125
Watertown, No.....	50		

THIRD DISTRICT.

R. W. SAMUEL E. ADAMS, (16,) MONTICELLO.

Monticello, No.....	16	Sherburne, No.....	95
Anoka, No.....	30	Centennial, No.....	127
Star, No.....	62	Nelson, No.....	135
Fraternal, No.....	92		

FOURTH DISTRICT.

R. W. E. P. BARNUM, (60,) SAUK CENTER.

North Star, No.....	23	Constellation, No.....	81
Clearwater, No.....	28	Unity, No.....	93
Star in the West, No.....	60	Little Falls, No.....	140
Paynesville, No.....	71		

FIFTH DISTRICT.

R. W. E. E. CORLISS, (99,) FERGUS FALLS.

Corner Stone, No.....	99	Moorhead, No.....	126
Aurora, No.....	100	Verndale, No.....	139
Mt. Tabor, No.....	106	Crookston, No.....	141
Bismarck, No.....	120		

SIXTH DISTRICT.

R. W. S. A. PLUMLEY, (89,) LITCHFIELD.

Howard, No.....	82	Golden Sheaf, No.....	133
Golden Fleece, No.....	89	Cokato, No.....	134
Sharon, No.....	104	Orion, No.....	138
Swift, No.....	129		

SEVENTH DISTRICT.

R. W. ALBERT MARDEN, (98,) NEW ULM.

Antiquity, No.....	91	Delta, No.....	119
Keystone, No.....	94	Walnut, No.....	136
Charity, No.....	98	Appleton, No.....	137
Sunset, No.....	109	Ortonville.....	U. D.
Granite, No.....	117		

EIGHTH DISTRICT.

R.. W.. THOS. MONTGOMERY, (54,) ST. PETER.

Mankato, No.....	12	Madelia, No.....	66
King Hiram, No.....	31	Joppa, No.....	76
Union, No.....	45	Henderson, No.....	80
Concord, No.....	47	Bethel, No.....	103
Nicollet, No.....	54	Josephus, No.....	128

NINTH DISTRICT.

R.. W.. HENRY R. DENNY, (111,) CARVER.

Wilton, No.....	24	Tuscan, No.....	77
Sakatah, No.....	32	Carver, No.....	111
Hope, No.....	42	Janesville, No.....	124
Cannon River, No.....	52	Humboldt, No.....	132
Temple, No.....	59		

TENTH DISTRICT.

R.. W.. OZIAS WHITMAN, (130) RED WING.

Red Wing, No.....	8	Minneiska, No.....	74
Wapahasa, No.....	14	Pickwick, No.....	110
Winona, No.....	18	Kellogg, No.....	122
Morning Star, No.....	29	Arcturus, No.....	130
Carnelian, No.....	40		

ELEVENTH DISTRICT.

R.. W.. O. H. PAGE, (22,) PLEASANT GROVE.

Pleasant Grove, No.....	22	Ashlar, No.....	61
Harmony, No.....	43	Illustrious, No.....	63
Evergreen, No.....	46	High Forest, No.....	85
Rising Sun, No.....	49	Adoniram, No.....	107
Meridian, No.....	56	Elgin, No.....	115

TWELFTH DISTRICT.

R. W. R. H. GOVE, (21,) ROCHESTER.

Mantorville, No.....	11	Heron, No.....	41
Rochester, No.....	21	Huram Abi, No.....	83
Mystic Tie, No.....	37	Tyrian, No.....	86
Washington, No.....	38	Relief, No.....	108

THIRTEENTH DISTRICT.

R. W. D. W. HALL, (102,) LANESBORO.

Hokah, No.....	17	Lansing, No.....	72
Caledonia, No.....	20	Brownsville, No.....	73
Preston, No.....	36	Mystic Circle, No.....	78
Spring Valley, No.....	58	Lebanon, No.....	102

FOURTEENTH DISTRICT.

R. W. J. D. ALLEN, (75,) LE ROY.

Western Star, No.....	26	Orient, No.....	84
Fidelity, No.....	39	Lafayette, No.....	116
Mystic Star, No.....	69	Grand Meadow, No.....	121
Eureka, No.....	75	Alma, No.....	131

FIFTEENTH DISTRICT.

R. W. E. D. HADLEY, (114,) LUVERNE.

Blue Earth Valley, No.....	27	Libanus, No.....	96
Blue Earth City, No.....	57	Prudence, No.....	97
Chain Lake, No.....	64	Fraternity, No.....	101
Doric, No.....	87	Ben Franklin, No.....	114
Good Faith, No.....	90	Currie.....	U. D.

SIXTEENTH DISTRICT.

R. W. J. M. D. CRAFT, (67,) FARMINGTON.

Faribault, No	9	Social, No	48
Star in the East, No	33	Corinthian, No.....	67
Oriental, No	34	Prairie, No.....	123
King Solomon, No.....	44		

H. R. WELLS,
Grand Master.

RECAPITULATION.

Total number of lodges on roll	141
Chartered this session	5
Number ceased to work	10
Number of working lodges	131
Number under dispensation	5
Number making returns	129
Number represented during session	112
Number initiated	354
Number passed	345
Number raised	333
Number adjoined	170
Number restored	29
Number withdrawn	215
Number stricken from roll	224
Number suspended	13
Number expelled	4
Number died	49
Total number of members	8647
Increase during year	586
Total receipts to close of session	\$4,174 50
Expenditures last year	\$3 579 24
Amount of appropriations for present year	\$3,247 89